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BOROUGH OF BATLEY.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

TOGETHER WITH THE

REPORT ON THE MEDICAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT OF SCHOOL CHILDREN,

for the Year 1924,

BY

G. H. PEARCE, M.D. (Durh.), D.P.H. (Camb.),
Of the Inner Temple, Barrister-at-Law.

Fellow and Member of Council (Past President Yorkshire Branch)
of the Society of Medical Officers of Health.
Member of the Royal Sanitary Institute,
&c.

BATLEY:
J. Fearnsides & Sons, Ltd., "Free Press" Works.

Borough of Batley.

With the Compliments of the
Medical Officer of Health.

TROPICAL DISEASES BUREAU
RECEIVED
15 AUG. 1925

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This Annual Report is compiled in accordance with the requirements of Circular 540 (England), issued by the Ministry of Health, 18th December, 1924.

1. General Statistics, 1924.

Area of Borough (in acres)	3,227
Civil Population (Registrar General's Estimate) ...	36,740
Population at Census of 1921 (Males 16,647, Females 19,490)	36,137
Number of Inhabited Houses (1921)	9,509
Total Private Families at Census 1921	9,320
Population living more than two persons per room (Census)	18.8%
Average number of persons per house	3.8
Density of population per acre	11.3
Number of Births (Males 340, Females 333) ... ... Total	673
Illegitimate Births (Males 23, Females 14) ... ... Total	37
Birth-Rate per 1,000 living	18.3
Illegitimate Birth-Rate per 1,000 Births registered ...	54.9
Number of Deaths, including residents who died away from Batley (Males 240, Females 251) ... ... Total	491
Net Death-Rate per 1,000 living	13.3
Infantile Death-Rate per 1,000 births registered	62.4
Illegitimate Death-Rate per 1,000 births registered	108
Tuberculosis Death-Rate (all forms) per 1,000	0.7
Phthisis Death-Rate per 1,000	0.3
Zymotic Death-Rate per 1,000	0.1
Respiratory Diseases Death-Rate per 1,000 (excluding Phthisis)	2.8
Cancer Death-Rate per 1,000	1.4
Cases of Infectious Disease notified	198
Cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis notified	72
Cases of other forms of Tuberculosis notified	13
Number of Inquests	34
Rateable Value	£181,093
Rate of 1d. in the £ produces	£698
Rainfall in Inches	25.67
Number of Wet Days	169
Parliamentary Voters	18,791
Local Government Voters	16,216
Poor Law Relief Distributed	£5,752-0-5
Primary Vaccinations	235
Exemption Certificates granted	428
Dried Milk given under Milk (Mothers and Children) Order	428 lbs. cost £32-2-0

The Registrar-General's figures were received on Wednesday, March 18th, 1925.

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2.—Extracts from Vital Statistics of the Year.

Borough of Batley.—Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1924 and Previous Years.

Yearly Average.	Estimated Population.	Nett Births.		Nett Deaths belonging to the District.			
				Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.	
		Number	Rate	Number.	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births.	Number.	Rate.
1901-10	31,694	827	26.1	143	171	537	17.0
1911-20	36,435	676	20.5	93	123	571	16.0
Year 1921	36,910	791	21.4	64	80.9	460	12.4
1922	37,070	642	17.3	54	84.1	479	12.9
1923	36,930	708	19.1	60	84.7	496	13.4
1924	36,740	673	18.3	42	62.4	491	13.3
England & Wales		...	18.8	...	75.0	...	12.2
105 County Boroughs & Great Towns including London ...		...	19.3	...	80.0	...	12.3
157 Smaller Towns		...	18.9	...	71.0	...	11.2
LONDON		...	18.6	...	69.0	...	12.0

PROVISIONAL FIGURES 1924.

Births		Total.	Male.	Female.	
	Leg.	673	340	333	Birth Rate, 18.3
	Illeg.	37	23	14	

BATLEY 1924.

Deaths, 491. Death Rate, 13.3.

Deaths of Infants under one year of age :—Leg. 38, Illeg. 4. Total 42.

Number of Women Dying in, or in consequence of Childbirth : from sepsis, 2 ; from other causes, 4.

Deaths from Measles (all ages)	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	3
Deaths from Diarrhœa (under 2 years)	1

There was no unusual or excessive mortality during the year which received or required more comment than is made in this Report.

INFANT MORTALITY.

1924. Nett Deaths from stated causes at various Ages under 1 Year of Age.

Causes of Death.	Under 1 Week	1-2 Weeks	2-3 Weeks	3-4 Weeks	Total under 4 Weeks	4 Weeks & under 3 Months	3-6 Months	6-9 Months	9-12 Months	Total Deaths under 1 year.
All Causes Certified ...	13	3	3	4	23	5	3	8	3	42
All Causes Uncertified ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Small-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chicken-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Diphtheria and Croup ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tuberculous Meningitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Abdominal Tuberculosis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Tuberculous Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Meningitis *(not Tuberculous)*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Convulsions	...	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	...	2
Laryngitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Laryngismus Stridulus ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	1	...	3
Pneumonia *(all forms)* ...	...	...	...	1	1	2	1	5	2	11
Diarrhœa	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteritis	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Gastritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Syphilis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Rickets	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Suffocation, overlaying ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Injury at Birth	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Atelectasis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Congenital Malformations...	2	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	2
Premature Birth ...	10	2	..	1	13	...	...	...	...	13
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus	...	1	1	2	4	...		...	...	4
Other Causes	...	..	1	...	1	...	...	...	1	2
Violent Deaths	...		...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Totals ...	13	3	3	4	23	5	3	8	3	42

Causes of Death in Batley for the Years 1912 to 1924.

	Yearly Averages 1912—1921.	Year 1922.	Year 1923.	Year 1924.
Enteric Fever	2.3	3	1	...
Small Pox	0.1	...	...	...
Measles	11.5	6	8	...
Scarlet Fever	1.0	1	2	1
Whooping Cough	5.9	3	4	3
Diphtheria and Croup ...	7.1	...	1	1
Influenza	27.6	23	14	36
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	...	...	1	...
Meningoccal Meningitis ...	...	...	...	1
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	31.9	17	18	14
Other Tuberculous Diseases	11.8	14	6	12
Cancer, malignant diseases	42.9	44	38	53
Rheumatic Fever	2.6	1	3	...
Diabetes	.2	5	6	4
Cerebral Hæmorrhage, &c	4.4	43	42	46
Heart Disease	57.4	65	72	70
Arterio-Sclerosis	1.8	28	25	20
Bronchitis	51.0	53	60	56
Pneumonia (all forms) ...	40.1	25	42	38
Other Respiratory Diseases	6.0	7	8	9
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum...	0.4	6	3	7
Diarrhœa, &c. (under 2 yrs.)	12.3	3	1	1
Appendicitis and Typhlitis	2.6	3	1	2
Cirrhosis of Liver	1.9	...	1	...
Acute & Chronic Nephritis	25.3	21	15	12
Puerperal Sepsis	1.1	...	...	2
Other Accidents & Diseases of Pregnancy & Parturition	3.4	4	...	4
Congenital Debility and Malformation, Premature Birth...	34.9	26	25	20
Suicide...	3.3	3	2	6
Other Deaths from Violence	12.6	8	11	11
Other Defined Diseases ...	148.4	66	86	61
Diseases ill defined or unknown	0.8	1	...	1

According to the Registrar-General's figures the population of Batley is decreasing. This is important from many aspects, not the least being financial. The birth-rate of 18.3 is not quite the lowest recorded for Batley (1922 and several of the war years being lower), but it is closely comparable with the figures for the rest of the country.

The nett death-rate of 13.3 is almost the same as in 1923, when it was 13.4. The lowest death-rate ever recorded in Batley, so far as can be traced, was 12.4 in 1921. The increase is principally accounted for by deaths from Influenza, Cancer, Apoplexy and Suicide. There is a small reduction in the deaths from Tuberculosis, Heart Disease, Bronchitis and Pneumonia, Bright's Disease and Premature Birth. Although the rate is higher, due to the Registrar-General's estimate of a smaller population, the actual number of deaths is five less than in the previous year.

The most encouraging figure is that of the infantile death-rate, which reached the low point of 62. This would have been looked upon as almost impossible of attainment not many years ago. The rate for England and Wales for 1924 was 75. The average infantile death-rate for Batley from 1901 to 1910 was 171, and from 1911 to 1920 it was 123. This has been almost halved in the last five years, and in my opinion is undoubtedly due to the education received by mothers in their homes from Health Visitors and at the Welfare Centres, together with the promotion of breast feeding, and, where such is not feasible, the use of dried milk, which latter is probably one of the most important reasons of all. The death-rate for illegitimate infants was 108 per 1,000 births registered. Who can say that amongst the lives saved by this reduced rate there may not be some future great benefactor to the race?

It seems of little value speculating upon the cause of the increase in the number of deaths from Cancer. We do not know whether the disease is infectious or otherwise, neither do we know its cause—apart from the fact well understood for many years that chronic irritation of any part of the human body by mechanical means or chemical agents will produce cancer—whilst we are equally in the dark as to what is a cure. The surgeon can by operation save many lives provided that he is consulted very early. Unfortunately many patients who might have had a chance lose it by putting off until too late.

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3. NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR.

BOROUGH OF BATLEY. Cases of Infectious Diseases notified during the Year 1924, and for the period 1890 to 1924.

Cases Notified During the Last 35 Years. Yearly Averages.				NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED.								Total cases notified in each locality (*e.g* Parish or Ward) of the District				Total Cases Removed to Hospital.			
						At Ages—Years.														
1890 to 1899	1900 to 1909	1910 to 1919	1920 to 1924		At all Ages	Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65	65 and upwards	1 North Ward	2 East Ward	3 West Ward	4 Soot'l Ward	1924	1923	1922	1916 to 1921
56.1	19.1	0.8	...	Small-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	Cholera (C) Plague (P)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
51.8	29.6	56.3	27.2	Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	11	...	6	2	2	1	...	...	3	6	Nil	2	9	14	21	293
37.3	12.8	15.9	7.2	Erysipelas	5	1	...	...	...	1	2	1	2	1	1	1	...	...	...	...
102.3	90.7	50.3	70.4	Scarlet Fever	39	...	10	24	5	...	...	...	10	20	9	Nil	36	123	77	213
...	...	...	0.6	Scarlet Fever&Diphtheria	3	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	Typhus Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
64.6	46.9	15.2	5.6	Enteric Fever	5	...	...	1	2	2	...	...	Nil	2	1	2	5	...	16	28
...	...	...	0.2	Para Typhoid (B)	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	67.0	38.4	Pneumonia	41	8	14	3	3	6	6	1	9	13	5	14	10	7	6	5
...	...	...	...	Relapsing Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	12.0	0.4	Malaria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	0.2	Dysentery	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	0.1	0.2	Continued Fever	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
2.7	1.5	1.6	0.8	Puerperal Fever	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
...	...	0.1	0.2	Cerebro-SpinalMeningitis	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...
...	...	0.4	0.2	Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
...	...	11.3	6.6	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	4	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	...	...	1	1	1	9
...	25.0	85.0	57.0	*Pulmonary Tuberculosis	72	...	3	40	8	18	2	1	27	19	14	12	57	50	19	216
...	...	31.2	12.0	†Other forms of „	13	1	4	5	...	1	2	...	4	4	3	2	5	5	6	10
...	...	...	0.4	Encephalitis Lethargica	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
314.8	225.6	347.2	227.6	Totals	198	15	39	77	23	29	12	3	59	69	37	33	125	200	146	776

* Males 41, Females 31. † Males 6, Females 7. Total deaths from all notified infectious diseases 24.

Analysis of total Deaths from Notified Infectious Diseases under Age Groups.

	Under 1 year.	1—2 years.	2—3 years.	3—4 years.	4—5 years.	5—10 years.	10—15 years.	15—20 years.	20—35 years.	35—45 years.	45—65 years.	65 and over.
Diphtheria	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	2	1
Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	1	1
Other forms of Tuberculosis	1	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	1	...

Years 1923 & 1924.

Table shewing relationship between Domestic Conditions of persons under 15, and incidence of Notifiable Disease.

Notifiable disease.	Less than 1 person per room.		1 to 2 persons per room.		More than 2 persons per room.	
	Previously attacked.	Not previously attacked.	Previously attacked.	Not previously attacked.	Previously attacked.	Not previously attacked.
Small Pox ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cholera (C) Plague (P)...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup) ..	...	2	...	14	...	2
Erysipelas ...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Scarlet Fever	...	8	1	88	...	30
Scarlet Fever & Diphtheria...	...	...	...	2	...	1
Typhus Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever	...	...	...	1	...	...
ParaTyphoid B	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia ...	...	1	...	37	...	18
Relapsing Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...
Malaria	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dysentery ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Continued Fever	...	1	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	1	...	5	...	2
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	9	...	42	...	18
Other forms of Tuberculosis	...	...	...	7	...	8
Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	1	...	...

Years 1923 & 1924.

Attack rates per 1,000 persons under 15 not known to have had a previous attack.

Notifiable disease.	Less than 1 person per room.	1 to 2 persons per room.	More than 2 persons per room.
Small Pox	...	...	...
Cholera (C) Plague (P)	...	...	...
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup) ...	0.05	0.37	0.05
Erysipelas	...	...	0.02
Scarlet Fever	0.21	2.4	0.8
Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria	...	0.05	0.02
Typhus Fever ...	..	...	...
Enteric Fever ...	...	0.2	...
Para Typhoid B. ...	..	...	...
Pneumonia	0 02	0.99	0.48
Relapsing Fever ...	...	...	...
Malaria	...	...	...
Dysentery	...	...	...
Continued Fever ...	0.02	...	...
Puerperal Fever ...	...	...	...
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	...	0 02	...
Poliomyelitis	...	..	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	0.02	0.13	0.05
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	0.24	1.14	0 49
Other forms of Tuberculosis ...	...	0.19	0 21
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	..	0.02	...

The ordinary notifiable infectious diseases caused no concern during 1924. Of the five cases of Enteric Fever notified three most probably contracted the disease outside Batley and two were believed to be infected by watercress and cockles respectively.

It is regrettable parents and relatives are so reluctant to permit removal to hospital in cases of pneumonia. Thirty-eight were notified and only ten removed. An example is before me at the time of writing. The patient is a youth of eighteen. He lives in a house containing two rooms on the ground floor and one upstairs. There are eight occupants of the house, the ages being 55, 54, 27, 26, 18, 16, 11 and 3. Four of them are employed persons. There is no poverty. The patient is nursed in the living-room and removal to hospital is refused. It is remarkable how such cases ever recover.

Tuberculosis in Batley, 1924.

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	...	...	1	1	...	...	3	..
1	1	1	1	3	...	...	...	1
5	20	13	3	2	...	1	1	...
10	4	3	...	...	...	...	1	...
15	3	1	...	...	2	1	2	...
20	2	2	...	...	...	1	...	...
25	3	9	...	1	1	1	1	1
35	4	2	...	...	2	...	...	...
45	...	...	2	...	...	...	1	...
55	2	...	...	...	2	...	1	...
65 & upwards	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Totals	40	31	7	7	8	4	10	2

The relationship between notification of tuberculosis and deaths from the disease is shewn in the following table, which covers the period between January 1st, 1913, and December 31st, 1923:—

Death before notification ...	61	Death 6 months after ...	11
Death 1 month, or under, after notification	121	Death 7 months after ...	9
		Death 8 months after ...	3
Death 2 months after	27	Death 9 months after ...	3
Death 3 months after	19	Death 10 months after ...	3
Death 4 months after	12	Death 11 months after ...	5
Death 5 months after	13	Death 12 months and over	75

The ratio of non-notified tuberculosis deaths to total tuberculosis deaths during 1924 was 7 to 24, or 29 1 per cent.

The following table shews the conditions under which patients notified to be suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis have been living in Batley during the last five years. The remarkable thing is that there is really so comparatively little tuberculosis when regard is had to such housing circumstances. It is bad enough for the patients, but what are the chances of others in the house escaping infection?

HOUSING CONDITIONS OF NOTIFIED CASES OF PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.

Year.	Notifications.		Type of House			Occupants.								Houses with more than one Patient Notified	Rooms.						Bedrooms.				Sleeping Accommodation for Patients.			
	M.	F.	B. to B.	Single	Through	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9 and over.		1	2	3	4	5	6 and over.	1	2	3	4 and over.	Separate Room.	Shared Room.	Separate Bed.	Shared Bed.
1919	40	29	36	20	11	6	11	10	14	7	8	3	8	11	1	29	25	7	4	1	28	32	6	1	6	61	19	38
1920	30	23	22	14	15	5	9	12	9	5	1	4	6	8	1	18	13	10	7	2	17	24	9	1	9	42	18	33
1921	28	28	27	16	13	6	16	14	7	6	3	1	3	8	0	18	16	14	4	4	22	26	7	1	19	37	24	32
1922	23	18	17	9	15	1	9	10	9	5	1	1	5	6	2	8	12	10	7	2	11	19	10	1	10	31	22	19
1923	36	27	28	15	20	10	11	12	12	8	3	3	4	9	3	22	16	11	8	3	24	25	11	3	20	43	27	36
1924	41	31	35	16	21	6	12	22	8	9	10	2	3	15	0	19	26	16	5	6	25	37	9	1	16	56	24	38

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Year.	CASES.			Vision Unimpaired.	Vision Impaired	Total Blindness	Death.
	Notified	Treated.					
		At Home.	InHospital				
1914	7	7	None	7	None	None	None
1915	7	7	None	7	None	None	None
1916	12	12	None	12	None	None	None
1917	16	16	None	16	None	None	None
1918	16	16	None	16	None	None	None
1919	10	9	1	9	1	None	None
1920	13	13	None	13	None	None	None
1921	6	6	None	6	None	None	None
1922	6	5	1	5	1	None	None
1923	4	3	1	4	None	None	None
1924	4	3	1	3	1	None	None

4. Causes of Sickness.

There were no specially noteworthy circumstances during the year which need particular reference.

As in previous years Smallpox was an expected disease, there being so many cases throughout the country, but no outbreak occurred. Several Smallpox contacts were kept under observation at different periods.

5. Summary (for reference) of Nursing Arrangements, Hospitals and other Institutions available for the District.

Professional Nursing in the Home.

(a) GENERAL.—Sick persons living in the North, East and West Wards of the town upon request to the Batley Nursing Service are nursed in their homes by two District Nurses provided by the Service through funds voluntarily raised for that purpose. Residents in the Soothill Ward are nursed by District Nurses provided by the Dewsbury Nursing Association.

(b) FOR INFECTIOUS DISEASES, eg., MEASLES, Etc.—During epidemics of Measles a nurse is, when necessary, engaged by the Health Committee for home nursing purposes. She becomes a temporary member of the staff of the Health Department. The Nursing Service declined a proposal of the Town Council under which their District Nurses would have been available for this work.

All types of infectious disease can be admitted to the Oakwell Joint Hospital where in the opinion of the Medical Officer of Health the home circumstances are such as to make removal to hospital necessary in the interests of the patient and the public health generally. The result is that for residents in the North, West and East Wards of Batley there is sufficient infectious hospital provision.

The residents of the Soothill Ward are sent to the Dewsbury Joint Hospital, whose governing body refuses to admit infectious cases other than Smallpox, Enteric Fever, Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever. A child therefore living in an overcrowded house in the Soothill Ward developing a severe attack of Measles with Pneumonia will most probably die, as it cannot be treated properly at home, whereas if it is living in any other part of the Borough it can be sent to hospital with every chance of its life being saved. It is remarkable that such conditions are not altered. Measles kills more persons than probably all the other infectious diseases added together, hence the greater necessity for its proper treatment. No expense need be incurred to alter the existing conditions. It is purely a matter of administration. No new buildings are necessary. I have referred to this subject in previous reports.

MIDWIVES.—There are five certified and one uncertified midwives practising in Batley, of whom one resides outside the borough boundary. They are under the control of the County Council, a nurse from the department of the Medical Officer to the County Council visiting them occasionally.

There are five certified midwives, of whom two, in addition, are fully trained nurses working in the Batley Municipal Maternity Home. They do not practice outside.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

Maternity and Child Welfares Centres. One at the Town Mission Hall, Batley, open each Tuesday from 2 to 4 p.m., and one at the Weselyan Sunday School, Batley Carr, open each Wednesday 2-15 to 3-45 p.m. There is a voluntary committee of ladies connected with the Centre at the Batley Town Mission, who collect subscriptions, provide tea for mothers, sell suitable garments, and help generally in the work of the Centre. No voluntary workers are attached to the Batley Carr Centre. The Medical Officer may be consulted at both Centres in alternate weeks. Health Talks are given weekly to mothers at the Welfare Centres by the Health Visitors. The services of Mesdames Almond, Greenwood, and Wilman have been continued as in former years. They are voluntary workers whose attendances are appreciated.

Work of Health Visitors during 1924:—

Ante-Natal—First Visits	175	
Re-visits	236	
		411
Infants under 12 months—		
First Visits	663	
Re-visits	6454	
		7117
Visits to children between 12 months and five years		6149
Visits to cases of—		
Ophthalmia Neonatorum		7
Pneumonia (notified)		69
Tuberculosis		308
Still Births		33
Diarrhœa		12
Miscellaneous		18
Total Visits	14,124	

On two afternoons weekly Health Visitors are on duty at the Welfare Centres. They also report to the Medical Officer of Health insanitary conditions observed. Each of them is also employed as School Nurse.

NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS ACT, 1907.—Doctors notified 260, midwives 455, and other persons 27 births, a total of 742 during 1924.

Table showing number of deaths amongst infants who attended or did not attend a Welfare Centre. Deaths under 4 weeks are not included for feeding.

Year	Infant Deaths		Attended Centre	Not Attended Centre	Breast Fed	Artificially Fed
	Number	Died in 4 first month				
1919	62	30	5	27	2	8
1920	74	46	11	17	11	15
1921	64	35	12	17	4	22
1922	54	27	9	18	17	6
1923	60	19	12	29	11	30
1924	41	24	9*	8	4	13

* 5 of these only made one attendance.

BATLEY TOWN MISSION WELFARE CENTRE.—Attendances of mothers with infants 2,272; Ante Natal, 111. Number of mothers on register, 455; new admissions, 265; average attendance per mother, 5.

BATLEY CARR WELFARE CENTRE —Attendances of mothers with infants, 1,439; Ante Natal, 50. Number of mothers on register, 174; new admissions, 70; average attendance per mother, 8. At both Centres the individual attendances are much larger than the figures given, which only refer to mothers who have their infants with them. No record is kept of other attendances, such as for the purchase of dried milk, cod liver oil, etc.

MILK (MOTHERS and CHILDREN) ORDER.—428 lbs. were given at a cost of £32 2s. 0d Purchases at cost price by mothers from the Town Council were:—Dried milk, 7,711 lbs., value £578 6s. 6d.; Virol, 295 tins; Virolax, 154 tins; Emulsion, 510 small and 393 large bottles.

7 dozen vests have been distributed through the Health Department to Batley children from the "Save the Children Fund."

BATLEY WELFARE CENTRES VOLUNTARY WORKERS' SECTION REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1924.

The Voluntary Committee has continued the work of previous years. Mothers and prospective mothers are welcomed at the Centres, and a cup of tea is provided for them.

Infants' garments are supplied at the cost price of the materials, the garments being made by ladies who are interested in the work of the section. We gratefully acknowledge this good service.

Wool, patterns and materials are issued at cost price for the home manufacture of garments

Garments issued at Batley:—12 petticoats, 32 nightgowns, 56 vests, 36 belts, 4 bibs, 42 Harrington squares, 22 pairs of socks, 5 patterns, 1 yard flannel, 1 oz. wool and 3 quickslips.

Garments issued at Batley Carr:—10 nightgowns, 12 Harrington squares, 10 pairs of socks, 9 bibs, 2 belts, 19 patterns, 3½ yards flannel and 8 vests.

The following goods have been supplied gratis at the Centres:—13 bottles of Medicinal Oil, 4 pots of Virol, 1 bottle of Emulsion, 1 tin of Virolax, 2 lbs. of Glaxo, 1 pair of elastic stockings, 3 vests and 2 petticoats.

E. WILMAN, Hon. Secretary.

L. ALMOND, Hon. Treasurer.

BATLEY CHILD WELFARE CENTRE.

VOLUNTARY WORKERS' SECTION.

Statement of Accounts, 1924.

RECEIPTS.	£	s.	d.	EXPENDITURE.	£	s.	d.
Cash in Bank, Dec. 31, 1923	9	1	8	Harrington Squares...	4	6	0
Cash in Hand, Dec. 31, 1923	3	18	8	Flannel, Wool, etc. ...	40	18	4
Subscriptions	16	18	0	Quickslips and Bibs ..	0	15	2
Garments, etc., sold ...	33	11	11	Stationery and Stamps	0	12	6
				Gifts	3	16	1
				Batley Caretaker ...	4	16	0
				Batley Carr ,, ...	3	7	4
				Cash in Bank, Dec. 31, 1924	4	4	4
				Cash in Hand, ,, ...	0	14	6
	£63	10	3		£63	10	3

(Mrs.) LAVINIA ALMOND, Hon. Treasurer.
(Mrs.) EMMA WILMAN, Hon. Secretary.

DAY NURSERIES.—None are provided.

SCHOOL CLINIC.—This is at the Public Health Department and is described in the Annual Report of the School Medical Officer.

TUBERCULOSIS AND VENEREAL DISEASE CLINICS are provided by the West Riding County Council, but are not located in Batley. It is remarkable that in a town the size of this residents who might need the services of these clinics cannot be attended here, but have to go to another town for treatment. Their convenience would be greater if they could receive this in their own town. The number of Batley patients attending the V.D. Clinic at Dewsbury during 1924 was 28 males and 5 females. Three males and three females attended the V.D. Clinic at Bradford from Batley.

HOSPITALS PROVIDED OR SUBSIDISED BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

(1) TUBERCULOSIS SANATORIA in several parts of the West Riding of Yorkshire provided by the West Riding County Council.

(2) MATERNITY.—The Batley Maternity Home is provided by the Town Council. It was opened on September 1st, 1922. There are now ten beds for patients in five wards, one bed in an isolation ward, and one bed in the labour room. There is also accommodation for the staff, which consists of an Administrative Matron, who is also Superintendent Health Visitor and School Nurse, one Sister, one Staff Nurse, and three Midwives, Cook (non-resident), Housemaid, two Charwomen and Handyman, the last three being not employed full time and non-resident.

The Housing Conditions of 316 patients, residents of Batley, who were confined in the Batley Maternity Home from opening to December 31st, 1924, were as follows:—

TYPE OF HOUSE.—Back-to-back, 165; single, 72; through, 74; one room, 5.

NUMBER OF ROOMS IN HOUSE.—One, 7; two, 137; three, 98; four, 47; five, 24; six and over, 3.

NUMBER OF OCCUPANTS OF HOUSE.—Two, 8; three, 60; four, 80; five, 66; six, 40; seven, 19; eight, 17; nine, 15; ten, 7; eleven, 3; twelve, 1.

CIRCUMSTANCES OF PATIENTS.—Living in own house, 193; living in own house with lodgers, 8; living in lodgings, 115.

The total number of patients in the Home during the above-mentioned period was 316 residents of Batley and 53 from outside the Borough, the complete figure being 369.

Details are as under:—

Year.	Bookings.	Patients admitted.	Infants born.
1923	205	156	153
1924	215	213	212

An ANTE-NATAL CLINIC was commenced during December, 1924, the work of which will be reviewed in the next Annual Report.

(3) CHILDREN.—There is no hospital for children, but admission can be obtained by them to the public institutions mentioned below.

(4) FEVER HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION is provided at the Oakwell Joint Hospital (77 beds, 18 cots, and 8 beds and 2 cots for Smallpox) for the old Borough of Batley, and at the Dewsbury Joint Hospital (72 beds and 30 cots) for that portion of the Borough which was formerly within the Urban District of Soothill Upper. Any infectious disease can be admitted and treated at Oakwell. The Dewsbury Joint Hospital Board definitely refuses to admit any cases other than Smallpox, Diphtheria, Scarlet Fever and Enteric Fever. Full particulars have been given in previous annual reports respecting these hospitals. Both are under the medical superintendence of general practitioners residing in Birstall and Dewsbury respectively. The action of the Dewsbury Board prevents the admission of patients from the Soothill Ward of Batley unless suffering from one or other of the four diseases above-mentioned, and hence they are at considerable disadvantage compared with residents in the remaining Wards of the town.

(5) SMALLPOX patients are also treated at these Fever hospitals.

(6) OTHER HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION, apart from the Poor Law, is provided at the Batley and District Hospital, established 1878, supported by voluntary contributions, and containing 56 beds, the Dewsbury Infirmary (50 beds), and the Bradford and Leeds Infirmaries. The Poor Law Hospital at Staincliffe contains 336 bids.

INSTITUTIONAL PROVISION for UNMARRIED MOTHERS, ILLEGITIMATE INFANTS, and HOMELESS CHILDREN (apart from the Poor Law) is not provided.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.—(a) For infectious cases by the Oakwell and Dewsbury Isolation Hospitals; (b) for non-infectious and accident cases by the Batley Division of the St. John Ambulance Brigade. A tribute of appreciation is due to Superintendent Horne, of the Brigade, who has rendered valuable assistance in the removal of patients at the Maternity Home. His kindly services are not forgotten.

6. Laboratory Work.

PATHOLOGICAL and BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS are carried out by Dr Sutherland at the County Laboratory, County Hall, Wakefield. Outfits are kept at the Public Health Department, Batley, and delivered to practitioners on request. The figures for the year 1924 as supplied by Dr. Sutherland are :—Widal 11, Sputa 40, Diphtheria 89, Typhoid 9, Tuberculosis 1, Miscellaneous 8, Anthrax 1 ; total, 159. Diphtheria antitoxin is supplied by the Corporation free of charge to medical practitioners for immediate use in their practice During 1924 22,000 units were supplied on request to doctors. They are disinclined to make use of this essential, preferring the remedy to be used after the patient has been removed to hospital.

7. Sanitary Administration.

ADOPTIVE ACTS and BYELAWS.—The following are in force in Batley :—

	Parts or Sections in force.	Date of adoption.
Baths & Washhouses Acts 1846-1882.	Whole Act.	1890.
Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890	I., II., III., IV. & V.	November 1st, 1892.
Infectious Disease Prevention Act, 1890.	Whole Act.	November 1st, 1892.
Public Libraries Act, 1887	Whole Act.	January, 1904.
Notification of Births Act, 1907.	Whole Act.	January 2nd, 1908.
Museums & Gymnasiums Act, 1891.	(As to Museums only.)	April 23rd, 1913.
P.H.A.A. Act, 1907.	Sec. 95.	July, 1924.

BATLEY CORPORATION ACT, 1921.

Bye-law.	Date.
Tramways	1882
Cemetery	1886
Prevention of Nuisances	1889
Common Lodging Houses	1889
Houses Let in Lodgings	1889
New Streets and Buildings	1889
Slaughter-houses	1889
Cleansing of Footways, etc.	1889
Regulations under Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Order	1891
Hackney Carriages	1891
Baths and Wash-houses	1893
Markets and Fairs	1898
Betting in Streets	1899
Pleasure Grounds	1910
Shop Hours Act (Hairdressers and Barbers)	1908
Employment of Children	1920
Sale of Coal	1923

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for year 1924

for the BOROUGH OF BATLEY, on the administration of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, in connection with FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS and WORKPLACES.

1.—INSPECTION of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces, including Inspection made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises. (1)	Number of Inspections (2)	Number of Written Notices. (3)	Number of Prosecutions, (4)
FACTORIES ... ... (Including Factory Laundries)	133	5	1
WORKSHOPS ... ... (Including Workshop Laundries)	118	1	...
WORKPLACES ... ... (Other than Outworkers' premises)	11	...	...
Total	262	6	1

2.—DEFECTS FOUND in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Particulars. (1)	Number of Defects. Found. (2)	Number of Defects. Remedied (3)	Number of Defects. Referred to H. M. Inspector (4)	Number of Prosecutions (5)
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—*				
Want of Cleanliness	2	2	...	...
Want of Ventilation	...	...	...	...
Overcrowding	...	...	...	
Want of Drainage of Floors	...	...	...	...
Other Nuisances	13	9	...	1
Sanitary Accomodation: insufficient ..	3	1	...	...
Sanitary Accomodation: unsuitable or defective ..	2	...	...	...
Sanitary Accomodation: not separate for sexes ...	...	...	...	...
Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts :—				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (s. 101)	...	...	...	...
Other Offences ... ... (Excluding offences relating to outwork and offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921).	...	...		...
Total ...	20	12		1

* Including those specified in sections 2, 3, 7 and 8 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, as remediable under the Public Health Acts.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.—Reference may be made to page 28 of my Report for the year 1923. It has not been possible for a statement to be obtained as to any changes during 1924 owing to the death of Mr. George Milner, for many years Assistant Sanitary Inspector, and the retirement of the Sanitary Inspector, Mr. J. Lindley. The following quotation is from the 1923 Report:—

" It is very desirable that where possible all privies be abolished and their places taken by modern sanitary water closets. In some of the above cases the sanitary accommodation only consists of one privy to three houses, a state of affairs which should not be permitted. The trough water closets should also be abolished. They are insanitary and create nuisances. It costs the ratepayers over one hundred pounds annually in wages to attend to their flushing. During the last ten years well over a thousand pounds has been spent by the Corporation over these trough closets, whereas if modern W.C.'s were installed the sanitation would be improved and the ratepayers' pockets saved. As in previous years I again suggest consideration be given to my recommendations, which, if adopted, would be a financial gain.

Removal of Domestic Refuse.

Year.	Loads of Refuse.			Cost of Scavenging.			No. of Covered Metal Bins.	No. of Fixed Brick Receptacles.
	Burnt.	Tipped.	Sent to Farmers	£	s.	d.		
1910	12076	1272	2700	3319	14	1	No record	No record
1911	10343	3443	2469	3289	18	11	No record	No record
1912	8848	4140	1492	2868	17	4	No record	No record
1913	7948	3615	700	2004	13	6	2981	1036
1914	4221	7400	260	1883	18	9	3149	1040
1915	4777	6584	260	1971	17	4	3182	1053
1916	8051	2809	312	1947	16	6	3249	1023
1917	6581	3784	250	3143	2	1	3249	1023
1918	6317	3493	222	4483	4	9	3249	1023
1919	7854	5277	223	6660	1	5	3249	1023
1920	8640	4991	387	8648	0	4	3270	1023
1921	8614	5808	364	7721	5	0	3437	999
1922	8885	5488	367	7272	0	0	3598	978
1923	9342	5419	266	7224	10	11	3622	966
1924	9533	5164	261	6636	10	5	3668	956

For many years I have stated the methods of refuse removal were obsolete, and have urged that a sub-committee should go into the whole matter with a view to reorganisation of both methods and staff. I again recommend this be done. The above table should be sufficient to show its desirability, and if there is a probability of benefit being derived—financial and hygienic—it does not seem a waste of time for steps to be taken to bring the town in this respect up to the level of its neighbours and many others.

Work of Sanitary Inspectors under Article 19 of the Sanitary Officers' Order, 1922.

The Senior Sanitary Inspector retired on January 31st, 1925. The Sanitary Officers' Order, 1922, states:—" The Sanitary Inspector shall as soon as practicable after the 31st December in each year furnish the Medical Officer of Health with a tabular statement containing the following particulars:—(a) the number and nature of inspections made by him during the year; (b) the number of notices served during the year, distinguishing statutory from informal notices, and (c) the result of the service of such notices. Several requests were made to the Inspector for this information without success, therefore the required particulars under this heading cannot be furnished. So far as is possible the following information respecting Registered Premises has been got together and is believed to be reasonably correct. It is based principally upon inspections made by the Medical Officer of Health and Assistant Sanitary Inspector Beaumont:—

INSPECTIONS OF PLACES WHERE FOOD IS PREPARED numbered 1,017. The Corporation obtained special powers in the Batley Corporation Act, 1921, for regulating such premises. ICE CREAM.—14 persons are registered and 133 inspections were made. FISH FRYING.—There are 57 persons on the register. In some instances there is no drainage connected to the buildings, the washings being thrown into the street or elsewhere. This has been previously referred to by me in past years and should be stopped There were 80 visits of inspection. An application was made by the trade organisation in 1921 for the adoption of certain sections of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907, under which byelaws for the better regulation of these premises could be obtained and put into force as recommended by the Medical Officer for a number of years. The Health Committee considered the matter.

but no action was taken. OFFENSIVE TRADES.—There are four, all tripe boiling, and three of these fat rendering also. One inspection was made. Attention is again drawn to the desirability of the adoption of bye-laws respecting offensive trades. BAKEHOUSES.—There are 32 on the register. The conditions are only moderate, it being difficult to obtain more frequent and thorough cleansing. 90 inspections were made. MANUFACTURE OF POTTED MEATS, BRAWN, SAUSAGES, etc.—The conditions can be improved under the provisions of the Batley Act, 1921. COMMON LODGING-HOUSES.—There are three, two for men only and one for both sexes. The general condition is fair. There were 23 inspections. SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.—Structurally and in relation to adjoining dwelling-houses the conditions are not good. The numbers are:—

	1914.	In Jan., 1920.	In Dec., 1924.
Registered	9	7	6
Licensed	8	None.	9

They are kept in as cleanly condition as circumstances permit The inspections numbered 394.

Food Surrendered and Destroyed Year 1924.

Assistant Inspector Beaumont dealt with the following:—

Jan. 29	—Beasts' liver, diaphragm and strippings. T.B.	30	lbs
,, 30	—Beasts' head, tongue, lungs, liver, etc. T.B.	56	,,
Mar. 3	—Beasts' liver, fluke	12	,,
,, 12	—Beasts' head, tongue, lungs, liver, etc. T.B.	66	,,
,, 22	—Barrel of Apples	140	,,
April 22	—Beast's carcase and organs. T.B.	560	,,
July 2	—Beast's head, tongue, lungs, etc. T.B.	64	,,
,, 2	—Beast's carcase and organs. T.B.	700	,,
Aug. 12	—Pig's carcase and organs. T.B.	133	,,
Sept. 9	—Beast's lungs, diaphragm, strippings, etc. T.B.	60	,,
Oct. 14	—Beast's forequarters, lungs, etc. T.B.	350	,,
,, 15	—Mussels	196	,,
,, 17	—Rabbits (12)	14	,,
,, 31	—Rabbits (27)	30	,,
Nov. 13	—Mussels	784	,,
Dec. 9	—Beast's carcase and organs. T.B.	504	,,
,, 10	—Beast's carcase and organs. T.B.	840	,,
,, 24	—Rabbits (27)	30	,,

Milk Supply.

Year	Cowsheds	Cows	Cowkeepers	Cowkeepers who are also Milk purveyors	Purveyors living in Borough	Purveyors living outside Borough
Annual Average 1910 to 1919	60	378	29	21	28	27
1920	*36	269	21	21	8	27
1921	*38	278	22	22	10	24
1922	*38	280	21	13	9	27
1923	*38	291	21	13	10	27
1924	*38	291	21	13	10	27

*Occupied. During 1924 sixteen in addition to the above were not occupied.

The minimum cubic air space for each cow in a properly lighted and ventilated cowshed should not be less than 800 feet. The following Tables shews the cubic capacity per cow in Batley cowsheds:—

Over 1000 cubic feet	3
Over 800 and under 1000 cubic feet	6
Over 600 and under 800 cubic feet	26
Over 400 and under 600 cubic feet	16
Over 300 and under 400 cubic feet	3

Only 9 of the 38 occupied cowsheds comply with the generally accepted standard.

There are difficulties connected with structural alterations and improvements in cowsheds, not entirely financial but as between landlord and tenant. In view, however, of the great importance of the milk supply coming only from healthy cattle, it is in the interest of the producer and also of the consumer—who should have the first consideration—that these cowsheds should at least be so improved as to comply with the minimum requirements if nothing more. No Batley milk seller yet sterilises his milk vessels. This, as I shewed last year, would involve no extra cost, but would be an advantage to the dairyman, because his milk would not turn sour so quickly. Ten per cent. of the milk as commonly sold in this country contains the germs of tuberculosis. Much of it contains manure and much has water added to it. Batley is no exception to other places. When it is realised that cow's milk as at present sold is responsible for practically all cases of tuberculosis of bones and joints, the production of hunchbacks, and the unsightly holes so often seen in persons' necks, particularly females, it is remarkable that financial interests should so long prevent the Government from taking action to get rid of the animals which are the cause of these conditions, thereby freeing dairy herds from tuberculosis, saving the lives and preventing the appalling misery suffered by tubercular patients, whilst at the same time insisting upon cleanliness of milkers and their methods, with freedom from manurial contaminations of the milk. As previously pointed out, the President of the local farmers' organisation has publicly said "It was the fault of public authorities if milk was not produced now under ideal conditions" So far as Batley is concerned these words throw the onus upon the Town Council for putting into force the powers they possess. I hope the invitation will be accepted.

Report of the Corporation's Veterinary Inspector.

Bank Foot House, Batley,

June 30th, 1924.

Dr. Pearce, M.O.H., Borough of Batley.

Dear Sir,—I have again the pleasure of submitting my Report of Inspection of Milk Cows in the Borough The general condition of the cows inspected and the udders quite satisfactory.

Not having clinically diagnosed a tuberculous udder the occasion has not arisen to forward a sample of milk for bacteriological examination The courtesy I have received from the owners and their willingness to comply with my recommendations is a great encouragement to me in carrying out the aims of your Committee.

Yours faithfully,

GEO. WHITEHEAD, M.R.C.V.S.

January 5, 1925.

I have again the pleasure of submitting my report of the Inspection of Milk Cows in the Borough of Batley. The general condition of the cows is satisfactory, with the exception of two cows in different ownership, which are very low in condition, in my opinion not due to generalised tuberculosis; one cow suffering from chronic indigestion accompanied with flatulency (probably due to a foreign body), the other cow recovering from a fractured ilium.

One cow is suffering from irritation of the skin on hindquarters covering a large area, due to the provender and confinement.

The udders of the whole of the cows are certainly satisfactory from the tubercular point of view, and on this inspection no deaf quarters of udders.

There is generally marked improvement in the cleanliness of the cows' hindquarters.

Yours faithfully,

GEO. WHITEHEAD, M.R.C.V.S.,

Veterinary Inspector.

Veterinary inspection of dairy cattle at intervals of six months is of no great benefit, although better than none at all. A number of years ago, when I advised the Council to appoint a veterinary surgeon for this work, I strongly urged inspection once every quarter, but my recommendation was not accepted. I again renew such recommendation.

It is satisfactory to note that Mr. Whitehead has not considered it necessary to take a sample of milk for bacteriological examination during the year. It is well known that the most skilful veterinary surgeons are unable to diagnose tuberculosis of the udder in all cases by clinical examination only, hence it is assumed the condition of the udders of Batley dairy cattle were in such condition as to thoroughly satisfy the Veterinary Surgeon as being above suspicion.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.

The following is the Report of the Inspector under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts (Mr. J. W. Beaumont), Assistant Sanitary Inspector. During the year 89 samples of Food and Drugs have been procured and submitted to the Public Analyst, who certified 77 samples to be genuine and 12 samples to be adulterated (i.e., 13.48 per cent. of adulteration).

Table I.—Borough of Batley.

NATURE OF SAMPLE.	Adulterated.	Genuine	Informal	Formal	Totals.
Milk	9	61	...	70	70
Butter	...	1	1	...	1
Borax	...	1	1	...	1
Boric Ointment ...	...	1	1	...	1
Cheese	...	1	1	...	1
Cocoa	...	1	1	...	1
Coffee	...	1	1	...	1
Gregory Powder ...	2	...	1	1	2
Glycerine	...	1	1	...	1
Lard	...	1	1	...	1
Margarine	...	1	1	...	1
Mustard	...	1	1	...	1
Olive Oil	...	1	1	...	1
Pepper	...	1	1	...	1
Rice	...	1	1	...	1
Sponge Biscuits ...	...	1	1	...	1
Tea	...	1	1	...	1
Vinegar (Malt)	1	...	...	1	1
Yeast	...	1	1	...	1
Totals	12	77	17	72	89

Administrative Action regarding Samples reported to be not genuine

No.	Nature of Sample and Results of Analysis.	Remarks.
4	MILK Milk ... ... 94.6 Added Water ... 5.4	No. 4 was a sample taken from the retailer and No. 9 a sample taken from the wholesaler in course of delivery to the retailer. Reported to the Sanitary Committee. No further action considered desirable.
9	MILK Milk ... ... 97.4 Added Water ... 2.6	
10	MILK Milk ... ... 95.5 Added Water ... 4.5	Reported to the Sanitary Committee. No further action considered desirable.
12	MILK Milk ... ... 89.9 Added Water ... 10.1	Reported to Sanitary Committee. Vendor and Agent convicted. Vendor fined £15. Agent to pay costs.
17	MILK Milk ... ... 91.8 Added Water ... 8.2	Reported to Sanitary Committee. Vendor convicted and fined £5 and costs.
23	MILK Deficiency of Milk Fat 9.3	Reported to Sanitary Committee. No further action considered desirable.
24	MILK Milk ... ... 99.1 Added Water ... 0.9	Sample taken in course of delivery to retailer. " Appeal to Cow " sample was genuine. Reported to Sanitary Committee. Vendor convicted and fined £1 and costs in local court. On appeal to Quarter Sessions however, the appeal was allowed with costs.
26	MILK Milk ... ... 98.6 Added Water ... 1.4	Reported to Sanitary Committee. No further action considered desirable.
34	MALT VINEGAR Malt Vinegar ... 50.0 Artificial Vinegar ... 50.0	Reported to Sanitary Committee. No further action considered desirable.
52	GREGORY POWDER Hydrated Magnesium Oxycarbonate .. 51.24 Light Magnesium (Magnesium Oxide) 16.02 Rhubarb Root and Ginger in Powder 32.74 Deficiency of Magnesia 42 %	Informal Sample. Reported to Sanitary Committee. To be followed up by Formal Sample.
68	GREGORY POWDER Hydrated Magnesium Oxycarbonate ... 16.86 Light Magnesia (Magnesium Oxide) 52.95 Rhubarb Root and Ginger in Powder 30.19 Deficiency of Magnesia 27.2%	Formal Sample. Reported to Sanitary Committee. Vendor warned.
71	MILK Milk ... .. 92.3 Added Water ... 7.7	Reported to Sanitary Committee. Vendor convicted and fined £5 and £2/13/9 costs.

The chemical analysis of the 70 milk samples analysed gives the following averages:—

Total Solids	12.66
Solids not Fat	8.88
Fat	3.78

Whilst this is above the minimum standard fixed by the Board of Agriculture, it is nevertheless below the average composition of the total milk samples analysed in the West Riding, especially as regards Solids not Fat.

Examination for Dirt.

There have been 15 samples of milk examined for dirt. They average 12 parts per million of fully centrifuged fluid dirt. This is organic debris, mainly characteristic of cow dung.

J. W. BEAUMONT.

An interesting case was No. 24, in which Mr. Tom Taylor, Milk Producer, Upper Batley, was fined £1 and costs in the Batley Police Court. This case was taken to the Quarter Sessions on appeal, when the appeal was allowed.

The prosecution was undertaken by the Corporation on the advice of the Public Analyst, Mr. Richardson, of Bradford. On June 5th Inspector Beaumont took a sample of milk from a retailer in course of delivery. On June 11th Mr. Richardson reported this sample to be adulterated with 8.2 parts per cent. of added water. The retailer having informed the Inspector that he purchased his milk from Mr. T. Taylor, the Inspector visited Mr. Taylor's farm in company with the retailer on June 13th, where he took a sample of Taylor's milk in course of delivery to the retailer. On June 17th the Analyst reported that Taylor's milk was deficient in solids not fat and contained 0.9 parts per cent. of added water. Inspector Beaumont gave notice to Mr. Taylor on June 14th that he proposed to visit his farm on June 15th and take a sample of the whole of the mixed milk from Taylor's herd of cows. This was done, being less than 48 hours after the previous sample had been obtained from Taylor. The Analyst reported this sample to be a milk of very good quality, containing solids not fat 9.10 and fat 4.64 parts per cent. respectively. He further reported that this milk would admit of the addition of 7½ parts per cent. of added water in order to bring it to the composition of the sample taken in course of delivery.

On receiving this report, together with a recommendation from Mr. Richardson to prosecute, the Sanitary Committee ordered proceedings to be taken against both wholesaler and retailer, the alleged assumption being that Taylor had added water to his milk before selling it to the retailer, who in addition had added 7.3 parts per cent. of water after receiving it from Taylor.

Both were fined by the Batley magistrates, the retailer £5 and costs and the wholesaler £1 and costs.

Taylor's milk was of such good quality according to Mr. Richardson's analysis that although the sample upon which he was prosecuted was only 0.9 parts per cent. below the minimum standard fixed by the Board of Agriculture it was assumed from the second sample taken that some 7½ parts per cent. of water had been added to it before sale to the retailer.

This was the sole reason for the prosecution of the wholesaler. He was not prosecuted because his milk according to the Analyst contained 0.9 parts per cent of added water beyond the minimum standard of the Board of Agriculture. Such was never thought of or suggested by anybody. It is important this should be clearly understood, because at the time much was heard of the alleged eagerness on the part of the Committee to prosecute a milk seller who had less than one part per cent. beyond the standard of the Board of Agriculture of added water in his milk according to the Analyst's certificate. The whole of the circumstances as reported to them were given due consideration by the Committee before action was dcided upon. The Batley magistrates were of the Committee's opinion, but their decision was reversed upon appeal to Quarter Sessions. The Analyst advised that the Corporation should carry the case to the High Court on appeal against the decision of Quarter Sessions, but the Committee decided to leave the matter where it stood.

Smoke Observations.

CHIMNEY	Number of Observations by Inspector.						Average minutes per hour dense black smoke calculated upon Inspector's observations.					
	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924
Albert Mill	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	...	...	...	...
Albion Mill	...	1	...	2	2	...	...	4.0	...	2.0	2.2	...
Alexandra Mill	4	4	2	2	1	...	3.7	3.5	2.5	3.5	5.0	...
Anchor Mill	5	4	6	4	2	6	3.7	3.7	3.8	3.5	5.7	2.0
Bank Foot Foundry	...	...	1	2	...	...	...	...	2.5	1.5	...	...
Bank Foot Mill	5	5	7	4	3	5	2.9	3.3	3.3	3.5	2.5	2.7
Batley Colliery	...	1	7	5	2	10	...	4.5	3.0	3.2	2.5	2.4
Blakeridge Mills	3	2	6	3	2	6	0.5	2.5	6.5	2.6	4.5	3.0
Bottoms Mill (long chimney)	5	7	5	5	3	2	1.9	1.8	2.8	2.2	1.5	1.7
,, ,, (short chimney)	4	4	5	5	3	2	3.5	4.2	5.3	4.6	2.3	1.5
Branch Road Mills	2	3	6	2	1	2	4.0	0.8	1.7	2.5	4.0	1.3
Brighton Mill	3	3	3	3	4	2	0.6	0.3	0.3	0.7	Nil	Nil
Brights ,,	4	6	2	3	3	...	3.1	3.4	2.0	3.0	2.6	...
Brookroyd ,,	4	2	3	4	5	3	2.8	2.0	2.3	1.7	1.2	0.6
Bulrush ,,	4	4	3	4	5	4	1.5	2.0	1.3	1.7	1.8	1.7
Carlinghow ,,	5	5	7	4	5	11	1.1	2.4	2.5	2.9	2.5	1.7
Carr Dyke ,,	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	...	...	...	...
Chapel Fold ,,	...	2	...	2	...	...	...	5.0	...	6.0	...	...
Cheapside ,,	8	7	6	6	2	5	2.06	2.5	3.1	5.0	6.0	3.0
Clerk Green ,,	3	2	1	2	2	3	4.8	4.2	4.5	2.5	3.3	5.3
Culvert ,,	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	Nil	1.0	...	...	...
Dale Street ,,	...	1	...	1	2	...	..	5.0	...	3.0	4.7	...
Dewsbury District Co op. Laundry	3	2	2	3	2	...	1.0	1.7	2.5	1.3	1.0	...
Dock Ing Grease Works	3	3	3	4	5	3	0.16	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Dock Ing Mills	4	3	5	4	5	4	4.0	4.3	4.2	3.5	3.3	3.0
Fountain Mills (long chimney)	5	5	7	5	6	8	3.3	3.5	2.0	3.0	2 3	2.5
,, ,, (short chimney)	4	4	7	4	6	4	1.6	1.7	1.1	1.1	0.6	1.4
Greenhill Mills	4	4	3	2	1	...	5.2	3.4	2.0	3.0	4.0	...
Healey Lane Mills	1	1	...	1	...	...	4.0	4.0	...	2.0	...	..
Hick Lane ,,	6	7	7	4	3	5	3.5	4.1	3.3	3.7	5.2	3.4
Highfield ,,	...	2	...	2	...	1	...	5.0	...	5.0	...	Nil
Lady Ann ,,	1	1	1	...	...	...	10.0	3.5	3.0	...	...	...
Little Dock Ing Mills	4	3	3	4	5	4	2.9	2.2	0.7	1.7	2.3	1.9
Little Orme ,,	3	2	2	2	2	3	2.3	3.0	3.0	2.5	2.2	2.7
Livingstone ,,	2	4	2	3	2	...	5.0	4.9	5.2	2.3	3.5	...
New Branch Mill (Victoria)	2	3	5	2	1	1	4.7	5.7	5.2	5.0	5.0	5.0
New Ing Mill	5	6	3	3	4	3	3.5	3.7	4.1	4.3	2.9	2.6
New Mill	...	1	...	2	2	...	...	6.0	...	3.0	3.7	...
Newsome & Askham's Works	..	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	3.0	...	...
Old Mill	5	5	5	3	3	5	3.6	3.4	2.8	3.3	2.8	1.8
Park Lane Mills	4	4	7	4	2	12	3.5	4.7	5.6	4.7	4.3	8.2
Perseverence Mill	5	6	7	5	4	5	3.3	3.9	3.5	2.5	3.2	2.8
Phœnix Mill	2	3	2	1	1	2	2.0	1.6	0.5	5.0	1.5	1.5
Print Works	4	2	3	4	5	6	4.7	6 0	5.3	6.5	6.0	4.9
Providence Mills	...	2	...	2	...	10	...	6.5	...	4.5	...	6.4
Queen Street Mills	5	7	5	6	4	1	5.8	4.0	5.9	5.1	2,7	5.0
Ridings ,,	3	3	3	4	5	3	1.7	2.0	1.5	1.2	1.6	1.1
Roche Colliery	...	2	2	3	1	1	...	1.5	1.0	0.3	Nil	Nil
avile Mills	4	4	2	2	1	...	1.7	2.9	1.0	3.0	3.5	...
mithies Lane Mill	3	2	3	4	5	2	3.3	1.5	1.5	1.1	Nil	0.2
pafield Mills	...	1	...	1	2	...	...	5.0	...	2.0	2.0	...
pring Mills, Staincliffe	...	2	...	2	...	1	...	4.7	...	3.7	...	1.0
pring Mills, Carlinghow	4	3	3	4	5	4	3.4	3.6	1.3	2.9	3.1	3.1
pringwell Mills (round chimney)	...	1	...	1	2	...	...	4.0	...	5.0	4.0	...
,, ,, (square chimney)	...	1	1	1	2	...	...	11.0	2.0	2.0	5.0	...
taincliffe Low Mills	...	2	...	2	...	1	..	3.5	..	4.3	...	12.0
taincliffe Mills	...	2	...	2	...	1	...	3.7	...	4.5	...	2.0
tanley Mill	3	2	1	3	1	...	Nil	0.2	Nil	Nil	Nil	...
Talbot Street Works	...	...	1	...	...	3	..	...	2.0	...	...	0.5
Union Mills	4	4	2	2	...	..	4.7	4.5	13.5	5.0	...	...
Union Street Grease Works	3	2	1	...	...	...	1.1	3.2	2.0	...	...	...
Valley Mills	3	2	1	2	2	3	2.7	3.0	5.0	2.5	5.2	2.6
Victoria Foundry	...	...	1	...	2	...	..	...	Nil	..	1.0	...
,, Grease Works	3	3	2	3	2	...	1.8	3.0	Nil	4.2	4.0	...
,, Mills, Batley Carr	...	3	1	3	1	...	...	5.0	5.0	4.3	2.0	...
,, ,, Carlinghow	4	5	7	5	5	9	3.1	3.2	2.4	1.5	2.6	3.7
,, ,, Staincliffe	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Warwick Road Mills	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	...
Wensleydale Mills	3	2	3	4	5	5	3.6	4.5	3.0	3.1	4.4	8.9
Wheatcroft ,,	3	3	1	2	2	...	4.5	4.0	Nil	Nil	3.5	...

The permissible maximum in Batley is seven minutes' emission of dense black smoke per chimney per hour. There has been no improvement in Batley during 1924 so far as the pollution of the air by smoke is concerned. A smoke-laden atmosphere is the cause of illness, expense, and discomfort amongst a population. It also means injury to vegetation and buildings. The old idea that more smoke meant more money has been proved to be quite wrong. It has been demonstrated many times that by taking steps to so modernise their furnaces as to curtail, if not entirely prevent, the emission of black smoke, results in a very great saving of money to manufacturers. Why is it then that the smoke nuisance is tolerated in the country at all?

During 1924 several notices to abate were served upon offenders and warnings given, but no proceedings were taken before the magistrates.

Rag Flock Act, 1911.

Two samples of Rag Flocks (Nos. 32 and 33) have been taken, and the Public Analyst's report is as follows :—

No. 32.—Rag Flock contains 4.2 parts per 100,000 of chlorine as soluble chlorides.

No. 33.—Rag Flock contains 11.3 parts per 100,000 of chlorine as soluble chlorides.

No. 32 is a very clean flock, and No. 33 will easily pass the test, having only a little over one-third of the maximum amount of chlorine allowable under the Act.

Disinfections.

	Beds	Pillows	Cushions	Blankets	Mattresses	Sheets	Quilts	Wearing Apparel	Carpets	Miscellaneous Articles	Totals
Destroyed for the Borough	9	14	3	5	4	...	1	13	1	16	66
Destroyed for Others	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Disinfected for the Borough ...	251	627	65	753	101	165	285	698	273	353	3571
Disinfected for Others	7	20	4	4	...	...	2	20	1	2	60
Disinfected for the Batley and District Hospital	32	111	...	13	...	11	6	18	...	43	234
Totals ...	300	772	72	775	105	176	294	749	275	414	3932

Number of houses disinfected, 66; rooms disinfected, 159; apparatus charged, 527 times; library, etc., books disinfected, 215.

8. Public Health Staff.

Medical Officer of Health, Medical Superintendent Maternity and Child Welfare Centres, School Medical Officer and Medical Superintendent Maternity Home	G. H. Pearce, M.D., (Durh.), D.P.H., (Camb.), Barrister-at Law (Inner Temple).
Assistant Medical Officer of Health (part time) M. & C.W.	Eleanor J. Howie, M.B., Ch.B. (Edin.)
School Oculist & Hon. Ophth. Surgeon Maternity Home (part time)	Randal Herley, B.A., L.R.C.P. & S. (Edin.), L.R.F.P. & S. (Glas.).
Veterinary Inspector	Geo. Whitehead, M.R.C.V.S., (Lond. and Edin.).
School Dental Surgeon (part time) ...	A. L. Hyslop, L.D.S., (Eng). (Appointed Dec., 1924).
Public Analyst	F. W. Richardson, F.I.C., F.C.S.
Senior Sanitary Inspector	Joseph Lindley, F.S.I.A. (Superannuated Jan. 1925).
Superintendent Health Visitor, Superintendent School Nurse, Administrative Matron of Maternity Home	Miss Evans.
Health Visitors and School Nurses ...	Miss Farthing. Miss Dearden. Miss Waterhouse. Miss Robertshaw.
Assistant Sanitary Inspectors... ...	J. W. Beaumont George Milner (Died March, 1924).
Chief Clerk	Mrs. Louks.
Junior Clerk	Miss K. Lister.
Maternity Home	Sister - Miss Wilsdon. Staff Nurse - Miss Cribbs. Midwife - Miss Fildes. Midwife - Miss Potter. Midwife - Miss Power.

All devote their whole time to the Public Health Service, with the exception of the Assistant M.O.H., School Oculist, Veterinary Inspector and Public Analyst, who are part-time officers. The School Dental Surgeon devotes three-fifths of his time to Batley and two-fifths to another Local Authority. A fifty per cent. salary contribution is received by the Town Council under the Public Health Acts or by Exchequer Grants in respect of each, with the exception of the Veterinary Inspector, Public Analyst, Assistant

Sanitary Inspectors, and Clerks, but a sixth part of the Clerk's salaries is paid from the above funds in respect of some work done for the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee, and one-third for work in the School Medical Service. The Superintendent Health Visitor and School Nurse is partly engaged in clerical work for the Maternity and Child Welfare and Education Committees as explained in previous Annual Reports. She also acts as Administrative Matron at the Maternity Home, the Ministry of Health having sanctioned this arrangement so long as it proved satisfactory in practice. This officer has no authority over the Clerks, the Chief Clerk being in charge of the general office.

Mr. J. W. Beaumont possesses the certificates of the Royal Sanitary Institute for Sanitary Inspectors, and Inspectors of Meat and other Foods. Before the war there were three Sanitary Inspectors employed in the Public Health Department. Since that date the work has much increased owing to various requirements arising out of Acts of Parliament or Ministry of Health Regulations, and there are very large arrears in Batley which need attention particularly respecting Housing and Registered Premises. The new Meat Regulations will take up much time to properly administer. It is expected during the present year (1925) the staff will be increased by the immediate addition of a second properly qualified Sanitary and Meat and Foods Inspector. The near future will quickly show whether a third Inspector is necessary. The policy is not yet settled by the Health Committee, but it seems probable that a third Inspector will be found essential. All the Health Visitors and School Nurses are fully trained State Registered Nurses and Certified Midwives. At the Maternity Home Miss Wilsdon and Miss Cribbs are fully trained Nurses and Certified Midwives. The Misses Fildes, Potter and Power are Certified Midwives. The death of Mr. George Milner, Assistant Sanitary Inspector, was keenly felt by the staff of the department. He had served the Corporation for 43 years, and was a most earnest and painstaking officer. His personality was such that he was held in the highest esteem and regard by his colleagues. His last illness was due to bronchitis, contracted during the foggy weather. The Town Council made a grant of £50 to his daughter after his death by virtue of their powers under the Batley Corporation Act, 1921.

9. **Housing.**

Number of houses erected during the year:—

(a) Total 36

(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts, 1919, 1923, or 1924:—

(1) By the Local Authority 24

(2) By other bodies or persons 3

1. Unfit dwelling-houses—

Inspection—(1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 565

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910 165

(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... ... Nil.

(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 212

2. Remedy of defects without Service of formal Notices—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers 173

3. Action under Statutory Powers—

A.—Proceedings under section 28 of the Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act, 1919:

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... ... Nil.

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:

(a) by owners ... ... Nil

(b) by Local Authority in default of owners ... ... Nil.

(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close... Nil.

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 5

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:

(a) by owners 2

(b) by Local Authority in default of owners ... ... Nil.

C.—Proceedings under Sections 17 and 18 of the Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act, 1909:

(1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders ... ... Nil.

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... ... Nil.

(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit ... ... Nil.

(4) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... ... Nil.

(5) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... ... Nil.

There are very many dwelling-houses in Batley which are urgently in need of repairs. The commonest defects, apart from general dilapidations, are dampness, darkness and lack of ventilation. The Housing Inspector—recently retired on superannuation —ceased routine work required by the Housing (Inspection of

District) Regulations 1910 in 1918. The last occasion upon which a report was presented to the Committee by him as is required by the Regulations was September 11th, 1918, as explained on page 48 of the Annual Report of the M.O.H. for 1919. The war had prevented much being done in this direction for several years previously, therefore it can be readily understood what considerable arrears exist. The lamented death of Mr. George Milner, Assistant Sanitary Inspector—employed in the Public Health Department for about forty-four years—in March, 1924, increased the difficulties. Mr. J. W. Beaumont had been recently appointed as an Assistant Inspector, and he has done work under this heading so far as it was possible within the limitations. It is hoped that during the present year the staff may be completed by the appointment of properly qualified and experienced inspectors and a start may be made to carry on the work in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health.

The first thing should be the repair of all houses which are urgently in need of it. There is work here for a considerable period. There have been no representations during 1924 in respect of houses unfit for human habitation. This does not mean there are none, but until more houses are built it is not practicable to close existing ones.

The Borough Surveyor (Mr. H. L. Hall) has kindly given me the following information:—

> From October, 1920, to July, 1922, 178 houses were erected on Housing Site No. 1. In August, 1923, the Committee let Tenders for a further 60 houses, and have advertised for Tenders and are now considering the letting of such Tenders for a further 20 houses.
>
> In the event of the Corporation continuing the same policy there is still land available for building purposes for about 200 houses."

The following is a report made by the Medical Officer of Health for the use of the Housing Committee in connection with Housing Circular 520 (Ministry of Health). It has just been completed, and is inserted here for future reference:—

HOUSING CIRCULAR 520.

Observations of the Medical Officer of Health.

Extract from the report of the Medical Officer of Health for Batley for the year 1914, page 41 :—

> " The Registrar-General's standard is that a room is considered to be overcrowded if more than two persons occupy it. On that basis it appears that 6,975 Batley people were living under conditions of overcrowding in 1911, or 19.3 per cent. of the total population of the town.
>
> " On December 31st, 1914, the population of Batley in round figures was at least 37,000. If we take the census figures at 19.3 per cent. of the population living under overcrowded conditions it shews roughly at least 7,000 persons require provision making for them in order that the overcrowding may be abated.
>
> " A reasonable average number of occupants for a four-roomed artisan's dwelling is four. On this basis no less than 1,750 houses are required according to the Census."

Extract from the report of the Medical Officer of Health for Batley for the year 1920, pages 48 and 49 :—

> " At the Census of 1911 it was shewn that 19.3 per cent. of the residents of Batley were living under conditions of overcrowding according to the standard of the Registrar-General. With a view to having some fairly reliable figures to go upon I have investigated the conditions prevailing in 1,471 houses visited during the years 1917 to 1920 inclusive, in consequence of the existence therein of cases of Measles. It must not be forgotten that during the greater part of this period of four years many of the male occupants in normal times were, on this occasion, away from home on military service. The results, therefore, do not give a true interpretation, but a fairly reasonable deduction can be made therefrom. On the Registrar-General's basis 11.8 per cent. of the houses were overcrowded, 3.2 per cent. of houses contained more than one family, and 3.1 per cent. of houses took in lodgers.

On December 31st, 1920, there were in round figures 9,100 dwelling-houses in Batley, and the population as estimated by the Registrar-General was 36,527. Since that date up to December

31st, 1924, 256 dwelling-houses have been erected. The natural increase in population—excess of births over deaths—during the same period was 1,292. Estimating four persons to each house, the new erections have not been sufficient to keep pace with the increase of population on this basis, otherwise the figure would have been 323. According to the census of 1921, 18.8 per cent. of Batley residents were living under conditions of overcrowding, this being based upon the Registrar-General's standard of more than two persons per room. The Registrar-General's estimate of the population of Batley for 1924 is 36,740, which, if correct, shews a decline when compared with that of 1923, which is 36,910. If the Registrar-General's figures for overcrowding are taken in conjunction with the census population of 1921 it will be seen that provision should be made for the housing of 6,643 persons who were then living under overcrowded conditions. For convenience a figure of 6,650 may be taken, which would mean the erection of 1,162 houses.

Extract from the report of the Medical Officer of Health for Batley, for the year 1923, page 43:—

> "There are many houses in the town which are defective, and in more normal times would have been dealt with by closure, or other methods less drastic. The commonest conditions met with are dampness, lack of light, defective ventilation and dilapidations."

In addition, there are over 3,000 back-to-back houses in Batley, many of them being of bad type. My estimate of the housing requirements of this town at the present time is the erection of 2,000 houses. I am well aware that this may not be practicable for various reasons, but in my opinion any less number will not be sufficient to meet the conditions

It will be observed from the following extract from the annual report of the Medical Officer of Health for Batley for the year 1919, page 45, that the original housing programme of the Batley Town Council has not yet been completed.

> "At a meeting of the Housing and Town Planning Committee on November 18th, 1919, the following resolution was passed:—

> ‘That the draft replies be adopted, including the plan (Section 3) now submitted, and that the Town Clerk be instructed to fill in the copies of the form accordingly, sign the same and forward them to the District Commissioner.’

In this draft was a recommendation by the Committee that 500 houses be erected in Batley.”

G. H. PEARCE, M.D., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health.

March, 1925.

BOROUGH OF BATLEY.

REPORT OF THE SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER FOR THE YEAR

1924.

G. H. PEARCE, M.D. (Durh.), D.P.H. (Camb.),
Of the Inner Temple, Barrister-at-Law.
Fellow and Member of Council (Past President Yorkshire Branch) of the Society of Medical Officers of Health.
Member of the Royal Sanitary Institute,
&c.

Staff.

The Medical Officer of Health is also School Medical Officer and personally undertakes all the routine and special examinations. He is assisted by a Superintendent School Nurse, who is present at all examinations. There are, in addition, four School Nurses, each of whom devotes one half of her time to School Medical work, the remainder being occupied with Health Visitor's duties. Two part-time officers—an Ophthalmic Surgeon and a Dental Surgeon—are also on the Staff of the School Medical Officer. The clerical work is done in the general office at the Public Health Department by a Chief and Junior Clerk who are employed by the Sanitary, Maternity and Child Welfare, and Education Committees. The Superintendent School Nurse also does certain clerical work as explained in previous Annual Reports.

Co-ordination.

Arrangements under this heading are satisfactory. The Medical Officer of Health being School Medical Officer links up these two branches of his department, which is completed by the School Nurses being also Health Visitors working under the Maternity and Child Welfare and Education Committees. Hence children from birth are under the care of a Health Visitor until their names are entered upon a school register, when they automatically come under the care of a School Nurse who is usually the same individual.

The School Medical Service in Relation to Public Elementary Schools.

School Hygiene.—Particulars respecting the hygienic circumstances of all the Batley Elementary Schools are given on Pages 2 and 3 of the Report of the S.M.O. for 1921, and are applicable to the present year. The number of scholars on the roll on December 31st, 1924, was 5,198.

The Director of Education (Mr Elliott) has kindly furnished the following information respecting structural alterations during 1924:—

Carlinghow Council School.—Lowering of further windows and provision of casement windows in Girls' and Infants' Departments.

Field Lane Council School.—Provision of a Teachers' Room. Re-asphalting of a portion of the School Yard.

Healey Council School —Installation of Electric Light in the Mixed Department, and provision of Lavatory Bowls in the Infants' Department. Re-asphalting remainder of the School Yard.

Park Road Council School.—Additional wall cupboards in the Girls' Department.

Purlwell Council School.—Skylight to porch of Boys' Department. Casement windows in Boys' and Girls' Departments. Widening of Classroom door in the Girls' Department. Re-asphalting of portion of Boys' Yard. New heating boiler.

Staincliffe C.E. School.—Provision of new heating boiler and hot water pipes.

Warwick Road Council School —Provision of casement windows in Boys', Girls' and Infants' Departments, and of W.C.'s and Lavatory Basin in the Infants' Department.

The policy of inserting casement windows in schools still continues. The money could be spent to better advantage. I have in past reports pointed out that casement windows are quite unsuitable for school buildings. This is the general opinion of persons whose business it is to understand and advise upon questions of school hygiene. The great draught-creating ability of casement windows in schools is in itself their chief condemnation and renders them a real danger to the health of scholars and teachers. Efficient ventilation is most important, but cannot be provided by installing casement windows. It would be an advantage to all concerned if where School Committees—which consist of representatives of the Education Committee, parents and teachers—resolved to recommend structural alterations, the School Medical Officer was consulted before work was commenced.

In more than one school there are drinking fountains whose presence is a danger to the health of scholars and others who may use them I refer to those which have a nipple to which it is possible for children to apply their lips. Diphtheria and other illnesses may easily be spread from such an apparatus, and alteration or removal is very necessary.

The ideal drinking fountain in a school is of a well-known type, where touching a lever or lifting up a ring causes a stream of water to well up into the child's mouth, but it is impossible to bring the lips into contact with the parts of the fountain in the neighbourhood of the jet of water.

A new school at Healey was under consideration before the war, but the project had to be deferred. It has been recently revived and a Sub-Committee has inspected various schools in other areas where the buildings are of the open-air type on modern lines. There is an opportunity for providing, at a comparatively cheap rate in these days of high building costs, a school which whilst giving the maximum of fresh air and sunlight will not absorb large sums of money in unnecessary masonry, as was customary in the past, when external beauty of appearance was thought to be of first importance. The Batley Open Air School is referred to later in this report.

As the proofs of this Report are being corrected it is announced in the local Press that plans for the new school at Healey, having previously been approved by the Education Committee, have now been finally approved by the Board of Education, and instructions have been given to prepare quantities and specifications and obtain tenders for the work.

From the Press reports it appears the cost will be £13,926. There will be six class-rooms, each 23ft. x 21ft. in size and linked by a long main corridor running the length of the building. Three classrooms will each accommodate 45 children and the other three 40 each, giving a total accommodation for 255 scholars.

From the school medical standpoint it is interesting to record that the class-rooms will be on open-air lines. It is also stated that there will be an upper storey to include a room to be used for medical inspection of children or as a clinic. The former will be a desirable addition, it being impossible in most of the existing schools in Batley to properly carry out medical inspection owing to noise, but much depends upon the situation of this room as to whether it will be useful or not. The School Medical Officer has not been consulted in the preparation of these plans, neither has he ever seen them.

Medical Inspection.

(a) Age groups inspected during 1924 were all those newly admitted and under the age of five years, together with all those whose fifth, ninth and thirteenth birthdays occurred during 1924.

(b) The Board's Schedule of Medical Inspection has been followed in every instance.

(c) The steps taken for ascertaining cases of crippling defects are fully explained on Pages 62 and 63 of the report of the S.M.O. for 1920, and may be referred to.

(d) The same remarks as in 1920 apply to the extent to which disturbance of school arrangements was involved by medical inspection.

Findings of Medical Inspection.

SUMMARY OF CONDITIONS FOUND AT ROUTINE EXAMINATIONS, EXCLUDING DEFECTIVE TEETH, 1924.

Free from classified defects.		Found suffering from one or more classified defects.	
Averages 1908–12	40.2%	Averages 1908–12	59.7%
,, 1913–17	40.8%	,, 1913–17	59.0%
,, 1918–22	44.8%	,, 1918–22	55.1%
1923	40.1%	1923	59.9%
1924	40.2%	1924	59.8%

If verminous conditions are deducted the figures are :—

Free from classified defects.		Found suffering from one or more classified defects.	
Averages 1908–12	77.6%	Averages 1908–12	22.3%
,, 1913–17	54.3%	,, 1913–17	45.2%
,, 1918–22	51.5%	,, 1918–22	48.3%
1923	43.0%	1923	56.9%
1924	43.9%	1924	56.1%

As a comparison the figures for elementary scholars in the area of the West Riding of Yorkshire County Council may be taken, from which it appears that in such area of the County the School Medical Inspectors found 50.5 per cent. of scholars to be suffering from defects during the year 1924.

It is remarkable the Batley figures for 1923 and 1924 are so similar. They were a source of surprise to myself when worked out. As all these examinations are, and have been done by the same individual since 1910, the figures may be regarded as a check upon himself as to the accuracy of his findings and therefore satisfactory.

The majority of the defects found are comparatively minor in character, but if neglected many of them may develop in course of time so as to seriously prejudice the child's health Hence the necessity of prompt treatment.

COMPARISON WITH PREVIOUS YEARS.

Percentage of Children found with Defects at Routine Examinations Excluding Defective Teeth.

SCHOOL.	1908–12	1913–17	1918–22	1923	1924
			Infants' Department.		
Parish Church ...	57.88	45.56	35.16	65.2	42.8
Brownhill	59.85	53.24	40.01	57.1	58.3
Carlinghow	60.62	46.06	31.96	28.6	52.2
Field Lane	54.86	46.61	36.5	41.4	69.2
Healey	52.34	42.18	37.22	60.8	52.9
Park Road	68.14	58.32	43.2	55.5	53.6
Purlwell	38.64	39.24	35.76	53.06	39.02
St. Mary's	70.5	69.34	45.96	65.8	73.3
Staincliffe	51.74	48.42	32.28	52.1	20.7
Warwick Road	58.55	47.44	50.16	60.7	60.0
Gregory Street ...	47.13	48.48	36.7	43.7	56.0
Hanging Heaton ..	74.16	41.44	27.42	58.3	8.3
Mill Lane	53.4	42.26	35.04	30.4	65 4
			Girls' Department.		
Parish Church ...	53.46	66 66	65.96	52 5	54.1
Brownhill	66.45	79.0	59.3	55.5	28.5
Carlinghow	68.47	79.8	75.64	66.2	64.06
Healey	46.24	78.84	68.56	50.0	58.8
Park Road	69.52	77.88	80.86	58.2	85.4
Purlwell	66.28	79.28	72.42	65.5	70.0
St. Mary's	77.76	86.02	82.3	70.9	79.2
Staincliffe	67.36	65.94	72.72	61.5	78 5
Warwick Road ...	68 88	71.1	78.02	73.6	63.9
Gregory Street ...	65.9	68.5	71.0	62.5	54.05
Hanging Heaton ...	58.3	78.9	78.24	64.3	61.5
Mill Lane	68.83	81.0	56.3	60.5	64.5
			Boys' Department.		
Parish Church ...	55.56	50.08	56.72	45.2	58.3
Brownhill	48.9	77.04	75.62	72.7	63.1
Carlinghow	56.52	75.68	62.9	64.4	48.9
Healey	55.92	59.0	62.82	46.9	69.7
Park Road	59.44	67.12	71.72	72.6	62.4
Purlwell	56.62	68.76	66.3	61.3	62.9
St. Mary's	76.36	78.08	84.68	84.7	70.2
Staincliffe	63.14	56.76	63.46	42.3	56.2
Warwick Road ...	58.57	73.6	70.04	62.3	58 7
Gregory Street ...	...	...	55.15	63.6	.
Hanging Heaton ...	63.06	73.48	62.56	53.3	52.1
Mill Lane	61.1	68.76	59.1	69.2	48.5
Totals ...	55.1	59.08	60.88	59.9	59.8

The heights of Batley elementary scholars shew an upward tendency, which is now in the neighbourhood of the Anthropometrical Committee's standard for boys and girls of the five year old group and can be considered satisfactory. An average gain in height of some two inches during fifteen years needs no elaboration. Improved wages and better food doubtless has something to do with this, but in my view the real cause is the work of the Health Visitors and School Nurses in the homes of the people, and their instruction of mothers in the feeding, rearing and clothing of their children. This is particularly the case in respect of food values. Mothers are shewn the best articles of diet, having regard to their nutritional value, and it is illustrated how quantity has no relationship to benefit obtained, neither has financial resources. The cheapest foods are usually the most and the expensive the least nourishing. The extreme importance of fresh vegetables, fruit and the nature and necessity of vitamines is explained.

In the nine year old group, examination was made compulsory in 1921, hence the figures are for a shorter period. The girls are better than the boys, the latter being rather more than one inch below standard.

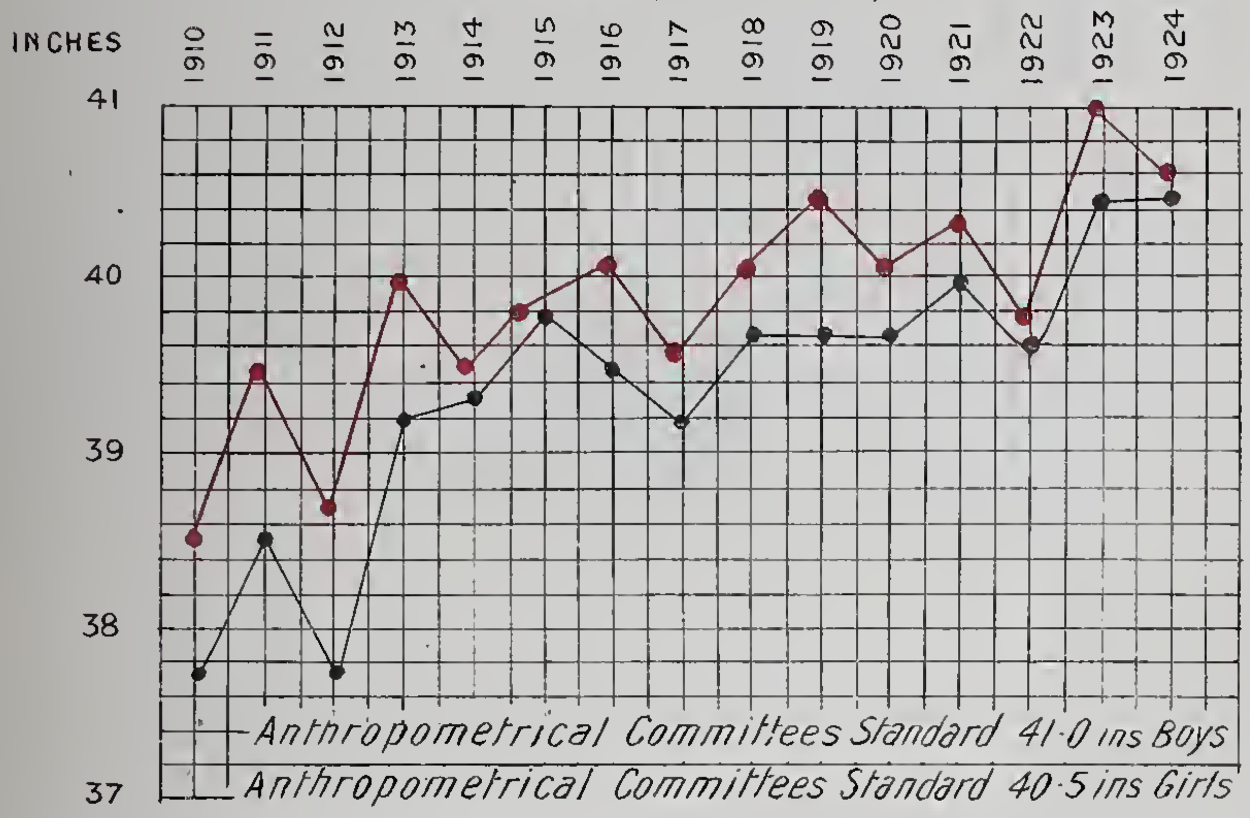
The thirteen year old group shews the girls to now be satisfactory in height, but the boys do not appear as good as the girls.

The weight charts show considerable improvement in the five year and thirteen year old groups, but the nine year old scholars are not so satisfactory. I believe that in this group the children do not get enough milk in their diet, and that if each had a pint per day heights and weights would improve.

The bad housing conditions in which many scholars of all ages have to live, where dampness, bad lighting, lack of proper ventilation and overcrowding are common, play a detrimental part. The smoke polluted atmosphere which cuts off the sunlight, with the loss of ultra violet rays, is very harmful. In addition to the foregoing, which are largely outside the power of prevention by the individual parent, there are two causes which can be abolished if they desire it., viz., improper feeding and lack of parental control. The former is still fairly common, though decreasing. The latter is not by any means uncommon.

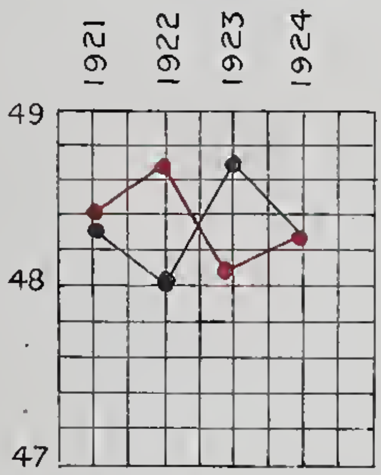
CHART SHEWING HEIGHTS SINCE 1910

GIRLS BLACK (5 GROUP) BOYS RED



Anthropometrical Committees Standard 41·0 ins Boys
Anthropometrical Committees Standard 40·5 ins Girls

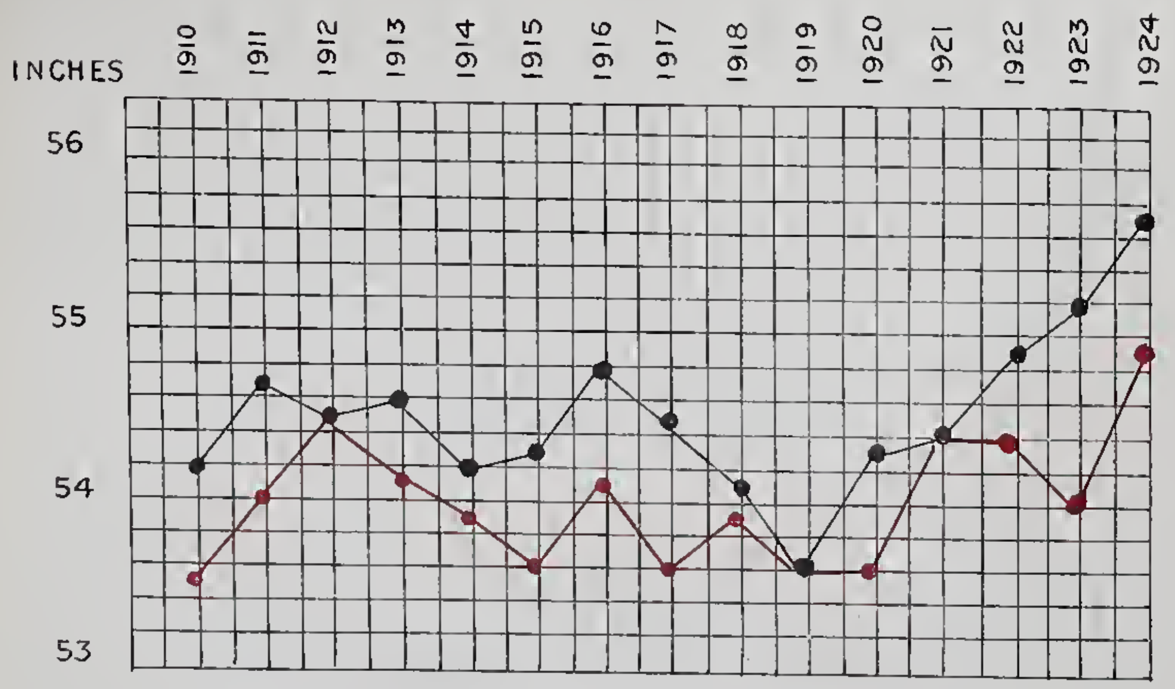
GIRLS BLACK (9 GROUP) BOYS RED



Anthropometrical Committees Standard

49·5 ins Boys
48·5 ins Girls

GIRLS BLACK (13 GROUP) BOYS RED

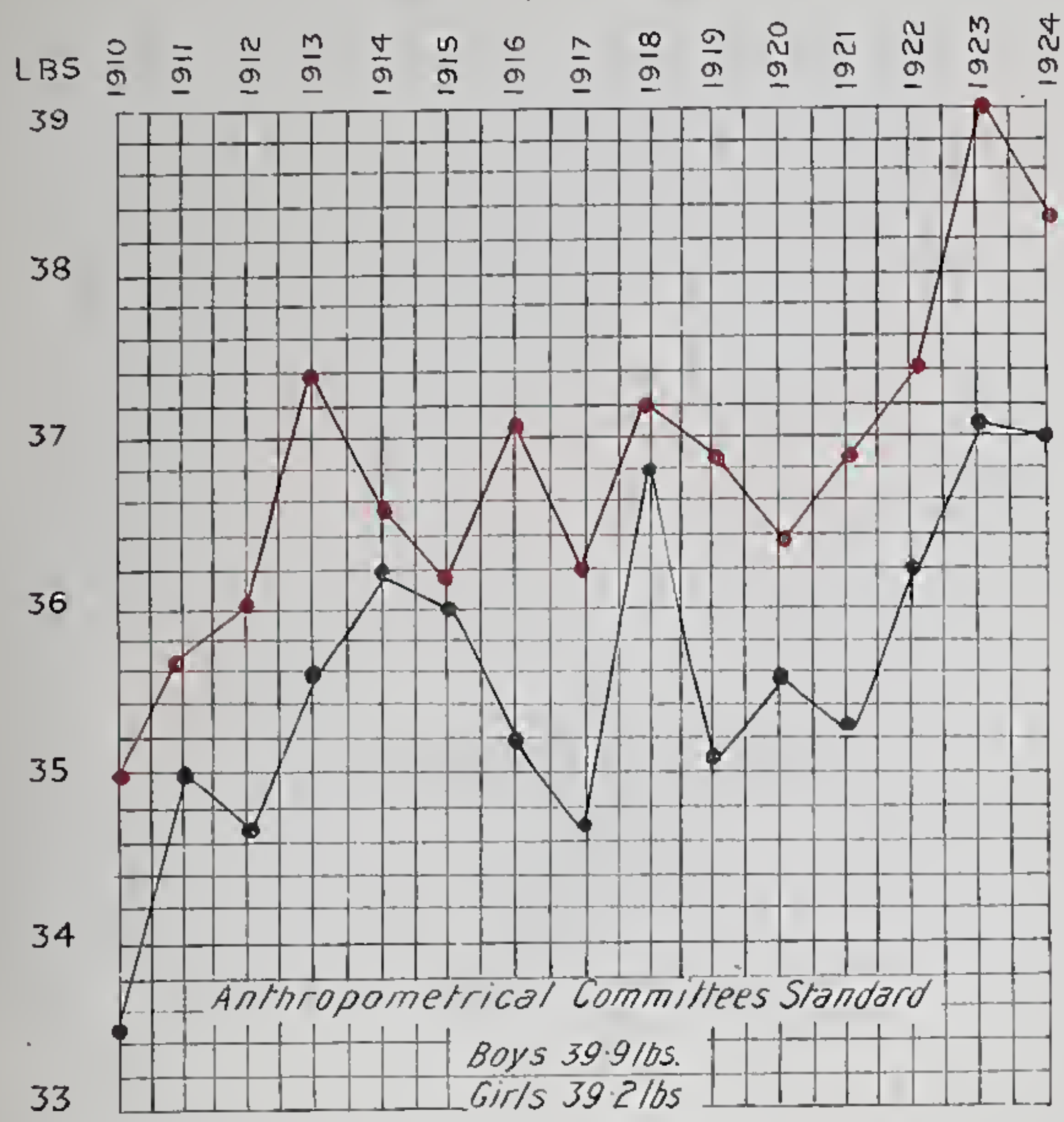


Anthropometrical Committees Standard 56·9 ins. Boys
Anthropometrical Committees Standard 57·7 ins Girls

NOV

CHART SHEWING WEIGHTS SINCE 1910

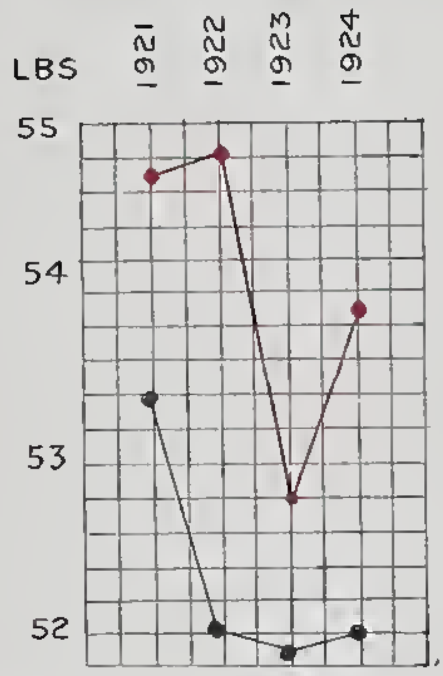
GIRLS BLACK (5 GROUP) BOYS RED



Anthropometrical Committees Standard

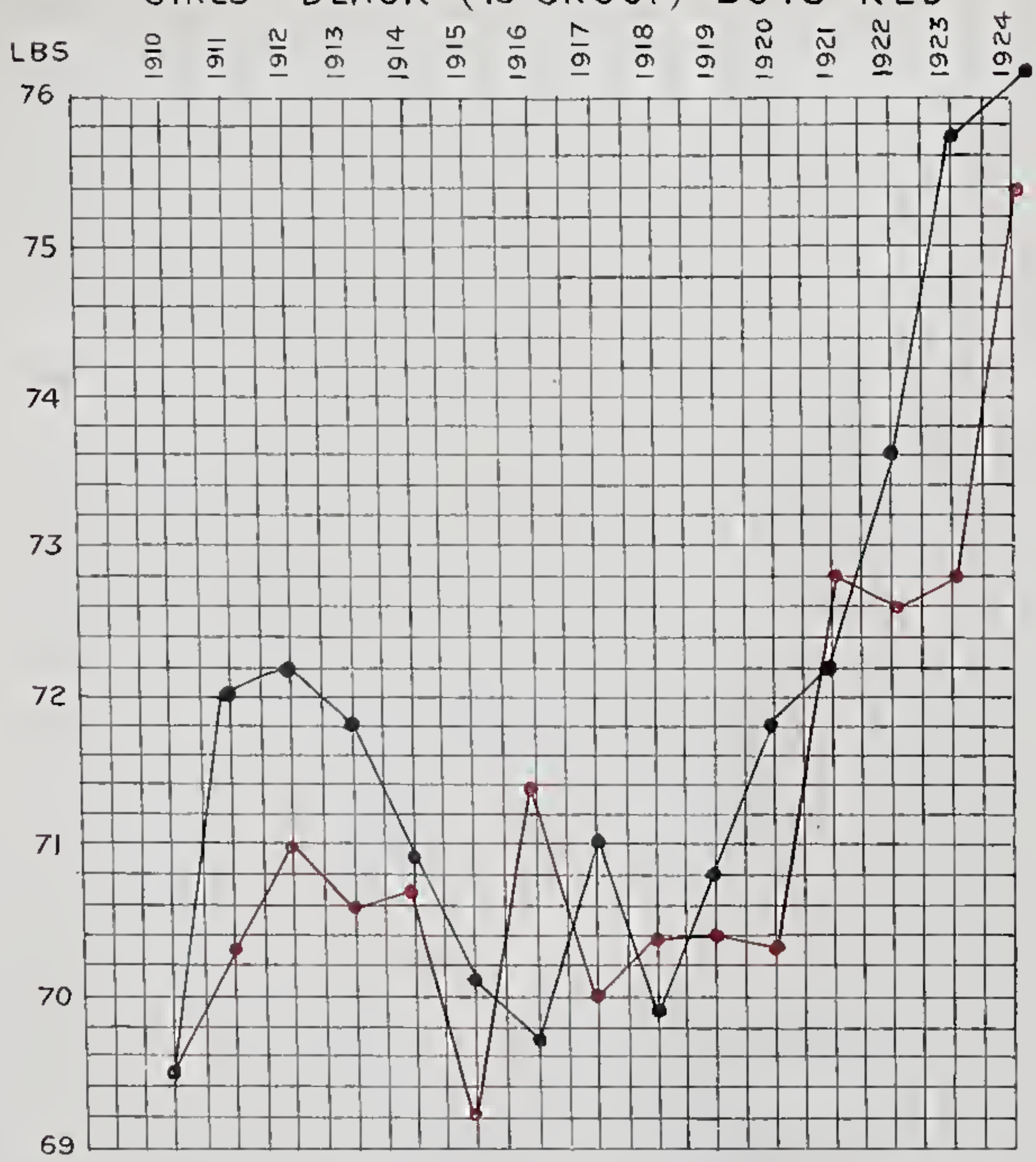
Boys 39·9 lbs.
Girls 39·2 lbs

GIRLS BLACK (9 GROUP) BOYS RED



Anthropometrical Committees Standard
55·5 lbs Girls
60·5 lbs Boys

GIRLS BLACK (13 GROUP) BOYS RED



Anthropometrical Committees Standard 82·6 lbs Boys
Anthropometrical Committees Standard 87·2 lbs Girls

NOV

SCHOOL.	DEPARTMENT.	Heights (Average)					Weights (Average)				
		1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924
Purlwell	Girls 12 Group	54.50	53.6	54.6	54.2	57.6	70.68	69.8	74.4	74.3	80.8
	,, 9 ,,	—	48.5	47.9	49.2	47.3	—	54.1	53.2	51.9	49.6
	Boys 12 ,,	53.54	54.3	55.06	54.0	53.9	70.61	71.2	76.2	74.1	72.6
	,, 9 ,,	—	48.2	48.9	47.8	46.7	—	55.0	55.5	53.2	54.1
	Infants male	39.94	39.4	39.7	40.7	46.8	38.01	35.9	39.8	39.3	38.4
	,, female	38.76	39.9	40.2	40.7	40.3	34.56	36.0	36.8	38.7	36.0
Warwick Road ...	Girls 12 Group	54.57	54.0	54.2	44.9	55.07	74.5	74.4	72.2	78.6	77.8
	,, 9 ,,	—	48.3	48.4	48.4	47.4	—	53.0	52.3	51.2	51.2
	Boys 12 ,,	53.75	53.3	53.5	53.5	55.1	69.19	68.7	70.1	67.7	74.7
	,, 9 ,,	—	48.7	48.7	47.03	47.3	—	54.3	55.3	51.5	50.5
	Infants male	39.52	39.3	38.3	39.7	39.6	36.08	34.5	34.8	36.6	35.7
	,, female	38.72	40.5	38.0	40.5	41.3	33.75	34.9	32.8	38.6	38.2
Brownhill	Girls 12 Group	52.5	53.7	54.4	54.8	55.7	64.37	70.0	75.4	72.7	71.7
	,, 9 ,,	45.6	—	47.1	48.3	47.8	45.85	—	53.0	51.4	53.6
	Boys 12 ,,	53.53	54.9	55.3	54.5	56.6	70.28	73.1	75.5	72.8	80.8
	,, 9 ,,	46.01	—	47.7	47.3	47.6	48.09	—	52.0	48.8	50.9
	Infants male	40.35	40.0	39.7	39.7	40.8	37.14	34.0	35.7	36.7	39.0
	,, female	40.5	39.1	40.3	39.0	40.7	38.75	35.3	36.6	37.3	35.7
Carlinghow ...	Girls 12 Group	54.81	53.9	56.7	55.1	57.06	72.76	71.3	76.08	72.7	77.9
	,, 9 ,,	—	47.8	48.1	48.1	51.9	—	53.0	51.8	52.9	55.6
	Boys 12 ,,	54.72	54.7	54.4	55.2	55.07	69.9	73.3	73.4	74.7	74.4
	,, 9 ,,	—	49.9	49.7	49.08	51.8	—	57.8	57.6	50.8	56.4
	Infants male	40.94	40.7	40.3	41.3	41.5	37.22	38.2	38.06	44.2	39.6
	,, female	40.7	40.8	39.9	41.3	40.04	37.77	38.9	36.9	37.3	37.3
St. Mary's	Girls 12 Group	52.63	53.0	53.8	53.7	52.8	66.86	68.6	72.5	68.7	70.9
	,, 9 ,,	—	46.6	46.3	50.8	46.2	—	50.1	49.2	53.9	49.5
	Boys 12 ,,	51.82	52.8	51.9	51.2	53.3	69.33	69.6	65.7	69.9	72.2
	,, 9 ,,	—	46.7	46.1	46.4	48.8	—	49.9	49.4	50.0	51.4
	Infants male	38.63	39.8	39.7	40.5	39.3	33.18	38.2	37.4	38.4	38.8
	,, female	39.06	39.4	38.7	39.9	39.8	35.40	35.2	35.07	36.8	36.5
Park Road	Girls 12 Group	54.35	54.7	53.9	55.1	54.3	69.77	73.4	72.06	76.8	72.8
	,, 9 ,,	—	48.2	48.0	47.4	47.6	—	52.7	50.4	50.1	49.3
	Boys 12 ,,	53.54	54.2	52.8	52.9	54.2	70.99	72.5	70.2	71.0	71.8
	,, 9 ,,	—	48.2	48.7	49.2	47.2	—	54.0	55.1	53.6	52.1
	Infants male	39.5	39.5	39.5	41.4	40.4	35.83	36.7	36.4	39.9	36.1
	,, female	39.5	39.0	41.6	40.2	40.5	34.32	35.0	41.6	36.3	35.9
Parish Church ...	Girls 12 Group	55.31	55.6	57.2	56.1	56.8	78.6	74.0	79.1	85.1	78.04
	,, 9 ,,	—	48.2	48.1	51.3	48.3	—	51.6	51.05	53.4	52.1
	Boys 12 ,,	54.1	55.1	54.2	54.6	56.2	71.1	76.5	69.9	75.5	75.4
	,, 9 ,,	—	48.5	48.5	48.6	48.7	—	52.9	51.2	54.9	54.03
	Infants male	39.94	40.2	39.4	40.6	40.5	37.58	39.7	39.06	38.2	38.9
	,, femsle	39.45	40.0	39.7	39.6	41.1	36.40	37.2	36.6	35.7	39.2
Gregory Street ...	Girls 12 Group	56.1	55.6	55.3	55.2	56.9	76.25	77.6	73.6	78.2	69.6
	,, 9 ,,	46.91	—	47.5	47.1	47.7	50.97	—	50.8	48.2	51.2
	Boys 12 ,,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	,, 9 ,,	44.75	—	48.8	46.5	—	48.61	—	54.4	45.75	—
	Infants male	38.78	41.0	39.7	41.3	43.0	35.35	38.9	36.7	42.8	40.8
	,, female	39.52	41.3	40.2	40.0	41.3	35.61	38.3	39.8	38.3	39.6
Mill Lane	Girls 12 Group	55.5	55.8	54.3	56.1	55.5	75.22	75.4	70.6	77.5	71.9
	,, 9 ,,	—	49.4	48.6	47.5	48.8	—	56.0	53.8	52.0	52.4
	Boys 12 ,,	54.41	54.4	55.7	56.3	56.5	79.30	70.9	77.6	78.1	76.2
	,, 9 ,,	—	48.4	49.8	49.7	49.07	—	55.7	57.4	58.4	54.4
	Infants male	40.15	40.8	40.2	41.3	40.3	36.93	37.5	—	39.3	37.7
	,, female	40.75	40.2	39.5	39.9	40.5	34.59	34.8	35.6	35.9	37.3
Hanging Heaton ...	Girls 12 Group	53.65	52.8	57.2	57.5	56.3	68.75	67.4	79.6	82.6	98.2
	,, 9 ,,	—	48.8	48.3	46.0	47.6	—	56.1	50.8	47.0	75.0
	Boys 12 ,,	53.0	54.6	54.9	54.2	53.7	63.4	76.3	75.2	73.7	89.4
	,, 9 ,,	—	48.8	48.8	48.2	50.0	—	56.0	54.6	52.6	76.1
	Infants male	42.25	41.4	40.4	41.3	41.3	41.20	35.0	36.6	40.1	48.2
	,, female	39.65	40.1	39.8	41.3	39.0	35.20	32.3	34.6	38.7	44.6
Staincliffe	Girls 12 Group	54.01	54.7	54.8	55.9	54.07	71.75	69.8	72.5	75.3	67.08
	,, 9 ,,	—	49.0	48.3	48.3	49.2	—	52.8	52.7	51.1	50.4
	Boys 12 ,,	53.80	55.1	53.5	55.1	55.06	67.30	72.3	70.4	74.7	76.06
	,, 9 ,,	—	48.0	48.9	47.5	48.06	—	55.1	53.8	50.07	53.9
	Infants male	40.53	40.6	40.6	41.8	40.7	31.10	36.5	37.1	38.9	38.5
	,, female	40.09	38.9	40.5	40.3	41.5	36.78	31.8	37.0	35.1	37.4
Healey	Girls 12 Group	53.91	55.4	55.6	55.8	55.6	73.03	74.7	71.8	75.8	71.2
	,, 9 ,,	—	59.0	49.5	48.8	49.0	—	54.7	56.2	52.4	51.05
	Boys 12 ,,	53.63	55.6	55.6	55.1	56.1	72.57	76.9	76.3	73.2	77.0
	,, 9 ,,	—	49.0	49.2	48.3	48.7	—	57.2	57.0	53.6	53.65
	Infants male	40.75	40.6	41.0	40.9	40.5	38.53	37.7	39.3	39.5	37.0
	,, female	40.83	40.4	40.7	41.09	39.8	36.56	35.6	37.0	37.3	35.1
Field Lane	Infants male	40.52	40.8	40.1	41.8	41.0	36.54	37.0	37.3	38.6	37.0
	,, female	39.11	40.5	38.6	40.9	39.4	33.71	34.7	33.8	35.4	32.7

Anthropometrical Committee's Standard for England and Wales.

WEIGHT	Boys 5 Group	39.9 lbs.		Boys 9 Group	60.5 lbs.		Boys 13 Group	82.6 lbs	
	Girls 5 ,,	39.2 lbs.		Girls 9 ,,	55.5 lbs.		Girls 13 ,,	87.2 lbs.	
HEIGHT	Boys 5 ,,	41.0 ins.		Boys 9 ,,	49.5 ins.		Boys 13 ,,	56.9 ins.	
	Girls 5 ,,	40.5 ins.		Girls 9 ,,	48.5 ins.		Girls 13 ,,	57.7 ins.	

Some interesting points in connection with individual schools have been noted:—

Heights.—The tallest girls in the 13 year old group are at Purlwell, followed by Carlinghow, Gregory Street and Hanging Heaton. The shortest are at St. Mary's.

The tallest boys in the 13 years old group are at Brownhill, followed by Mill Lane, Parish Church and Healey. The shortest are at St. Mary's.

The tallest girls in the 9 year old group are at Carlinghow, followed by Staincliffe, Healey and Mill Lane. The shortest are at St. Mary's.

The tallest boys in the 9 year old group are at Carlinghow, followed by Hanging Heaton, Mill Lane and St. Mary's The shortest are at Purlwell.

The tallest girls in the 5 year old group are at Staincliffe. followed by Warwick Road, Gregory Street and Parish Church. The shortest are at Hanging Heaton.

The tallest boys in the 5 year old group are at Purlwell, followed by Gregory Street, Carlinghow and Hanging Heaton. The shortest are at Mill Lane.

Weights.—The heaviest girls in the 13 year old group are at Hanging Heaton, followed by Purlwell, Parish Church and Carlinghow. The lightest girls are at Staincliffe.

The heaviest boys in the 13 year old group are at Hanging Heaton, followed by Brownhill, Healey and Mill Lane. The lightest boys are at St. Mary's.

The heaviest girls in the 9 year old group are at Hanging Heaton, followed by Carlinghow, Brownhill and Mill Lane. The lightest girls are at Park Road.

The heaviest boys in the 9 year old group are at Hanging Heaton, followed by Carlinghow, Mill Lane and Purlwell. The lightest boys are at Warwick Road.

The heaviest girls in the 5 year old group are at Hanging Heaton, followed by Gregory Street, Parish Church and Warwick Road The lightest girls are at Field Lane.

The heaviest boys in the 5 year old group are at Hanging Heaton, followed by Gregory Street, Carlinghow and Brownhill. The lightest boys are at Warwick Road.

The figures for malnutrition are rather better than for the four previous years. They are 136 children, or 9.8 per cent. of those examined, for 1924, against 10.2 for 1923, 14.6 for 1922, and 21.7 for 1921. The improvement is gratifying, but there is something wrong where in these days almost 10 per cent. of scholars examined are found to be suffering from malnutrition. This in itself should justify the existence of the Open Air School, although it is hoped in future years it will be customary for all schools to be open air schools. The following is an extract from a local paper giving the views of Mr. Walter Hurst, J.P., on his retirement after some forty-four years' experience as Headmaster of the Batley Church of England School. Mr. Hurst's remarks appeared to me to be of value in making a comparison between present and past, whilst at the same time being an encouragement for the future. Mr. Hurst said:—

> "We never had such fine children in our elementary schools as to-day. They are better clothed, better fed, better physically and in every sense than ever before. This is partly due to the greater attention given to physical exercises and games, but largely, I believe, to the school health service. The wonderful benefits which children have received through the system of school medical examinations can never be over-estimated. At first, I believe, the school medical service was regarded by certain parents as a kind of officious interference by the authority, but that view has long been dropped, and I believe parents to-day realise the value of these services to their children. Serious and unsuspected defects have been found and remedied in children through these examinations, which otherwise would have remained undetected until perhaps too late to cure. The value of this work is immense and I would like to see the day arrive when periodical medical examinations are compulsory, not only at school, but until the age of at least 18, and perhaps still later in life."

The common fashion of scholars wearing very short socks and sleeves is the cause of no inconsiderable amount of chest affections Doubtless they look nice when so attired in warm weather, and no objection can be raised, but it needs no medical knowledge to realise that bare legs and arms in winter, whether it be cold, wet or foggy is entirely another thing, and should not be permitted

The body, especially of a child, quickly loses heat under such conditions, bronchitis or pneumonia being a very probable result. It is difficult to convince mothers on this point, fashion being a powerful factor in influencing many of them.

(a) UNCLEANLINESS.—The following figures shew the conditions found during the last five years, taking all the schools in the Borough:—

Year.	Surprise Examinations.	Percentage Verminous.
1920	13117	9.0
1921	16871	21.5
1922	14204	17.5
1923	13065	14.8
1924	14108	14.1

The grosser verminous scholars are not often met with, and, generally speaking, there appears to be an atmosphere of increasing self-respect amongst the majority of the girls, who are the principal offenders, the condition being rarely seen in boys, doubtless on account of their shorter hair. Notwithstanding this improvement it gives cause for serious thought that so large a proportion of the female scholars are found in this condition, be the degree greater or lesser. The School Nurses are continuously urging girls and their mothers to improve matters. Advice, both verbally and by printed cards, is distributed broadcast in the schools by the nurses, in many instances also by head teachers. Unfortunately in a large number of cases where mothers have been reminded of the instruction cards sent to them over periods of several years they have denied receiving them, and it has been found that in many cases the girls have destroyed the cards and not delivered them at home. In consequence it has become necessary to exclude from school automatically all scholars who may be found verminous after two previous warnings have been given. During the year 254 scholars were thus excluded. There were two prosecutions, convictions being obtained.

The following figures give the percentage of verminous conditions found amongst girls at the routine examinations in each school during 1924. These are not surprise examinations. The parents have one week's notice that the school medical inspection is to take place, and there is every opportunity for the scholar to be seen at her best.

School.	Percentage Verminous.	School.	Percentage Verminous.
Warwick Road Girls'	42.5	Brownhill Girls'	25.0
Warwick Road Infants'	31.1	Brownhill Infants'	Nil.
Carlinghow Girls'	28.7	St. Mary's Girls'	44.9
Carlinghow Infants'	13.6	St. Mary's Infants'	22.2
Park Road Girls'	40.0	Parish Church Girls'	14.7
Park Road Infants'	26.9	Parish Church Infants'	4.0
Gregory Street Girls'	16.2	Mill Lane Girls'	8.8
Gregory Street Infants'	15.0	Mill Lane Infants'	12.5
Hanging Heaton Girls'	6.6	Staincliffe Girls'	13.3
Hanging Heaton Infants'	Nil.	Staincliffe Infants'	20.0
Healey Girls'	4.3	Purlwell Girls'	32.9
Healey Infants'	31.2	Purlwell Infants'	3.7
Field Lane Infants'	23.0		

Considerable help has been rendered by the National Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Children through their local officer, Inspector Lawler, who has visited a large number of homes on request by this Department, with excellent results. Where visits from a School Nurse or Attendance Officer fail Inspector Lawler quickly succeeds in persuading parents to cleanse their children. It is a pleasure to record the appreciation in which he is held by the School Medical Department for his willing assistance, often given at some personal inconvenience and always with the knowledge that it means a great increase in his work without financial recompense.

(b) MINOR AILMENTS.—Table IV., at the end of the report, gives the figures for the year, which vary little from the previous one. Ringworm is treated—when the scholar has not been taken to a local practitioner—by means of drugs, no final arrangement having yet been come to respecting X-ray treatment. Impetigo, blepharitis, ottorrhœa, and conditions usually found at school clinics are dealt with. A charge of 1s. per year, the first fortnight being free, was instituted by request of the Board of Education in October, 1923. The majority of scholars do not attend for a full fortnight, being relieved of their minor ailments before that period expires. Seven shillings were received during 1924 from this source and one shilling had to be collected. It would hardly appear worth while to make this charge.

(c) TONSILS AND ADENOIDS.—The arrangement referred to in last year's report which was made with the Governors of the Batley Hospital has not been found to work so satisfactorily as could be desired. A new scheme was proposed, and received the sanction of the Board of Education in December, 1924. It is as follows :—

(1) Any child whose residence is within the Borough of Batley attending a Batley elementary school suffering from enlarged tonsils, or adenoids, or both, may be operated upon for the relief of such conditions at the Batley and District Hospital, irrespective of whether the scholar has been referred for treatment at the Hospital by the School Medical Officer or a general practitioner.

(2) Every month the Hospital will submit to the Education Committee an account for payment in respect of such operative treatment, which account shall state the name, age, address, and school of each scholar for whom payment is claimed, together with the date of operation. The fee payable by the Committee to the Hospital shall be one guinea per case.

(3) In the case of operations for the removal of tonsils, it is understood there shall be complete eneucleation of the whole tonsil. If necessary accommodation overnight will be provided for any patient as a matter of course, it is assumed.

During 1924 the School Medical Officer referred 80 cases to the Hospital, and of these 30 were actually operated upon.

(d) TUBERCULOSIS.—At the routine examinations one definite and nine suspected pulmonary cases were discovered and referred for treatment. The following table refers to tuberculosis notifications amongst Batley elementary school children for the year 1924 and 5 previous years.

		1924		1923		1922		1921		1920		1919	
		Pul.	Non. Pul.	Pul.	Non. Pul.	Pul.	Non Pul.	Pul.	Non. Pul.	Pul.	Non. Pul.	Pul.	Non· Pul.
Notified by general practitioners		5	1	10	2	2	4	4	2	8	3	10	3
Notified by Tuberculosis Officer...		21	3	7	—	1	3	14	9	7	2	13	6
Notified by School Medical Officer		—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Information obtained from list periodically submitted by W.R. County Council ...	Not Notified in accordance with P.H. (Tub). Regs. 1912	17	2	6	1	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Information obtained from School Attendance Officers or otherwise		—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

It is understood that the Board of Education consider that the Local Education Authority should leave to the appropriate Tuberculosis Authority the responsibility for the treatment and education of all children of school age who are suffering from infectious pulmonary or intrathoracic glandular tuberculosis, or from active pulmonary tuberculosis, as such children need Sanatorium treatment, and that the Authority should confine themselves to the provision of Open-Air School accommodation for delicate children (e.g. pre-tubercular children or children suffering from latent tuberculosis, malnutrition, debility, anæmia, etc.).

The West Riding County Council is the authority for the treatment of tuberculosis in this area. The following, so far as can be ascertained, are the particulars relative to the treatment of notified cases during 1924:—

	1924.	1923
(1) Received treatment from general practitioner at home	1	2
(2) *Received treatment at Tuberculosis Dispensary ...	49	26
(3) *Sent from Tuberculosis Dispensary to Sanatorium...	11	14
(4) No record of any treatment	Nil.	1

* 3 are also contained in 2.

(e) SKIN DISEASES.—Twenty-three cases, mostly impetigo, were discovered at routine examinations, the same figure as for the previous year.

(f) EXTERNAL EYE DISEASE.—Blepharitis was seen in 22 and corneal opacities, the result of previous inflammatory conditions, in two cases.

(g) Dr. Randal Herley's services as Ophthalmic Surgeon have been in considerable demand at the School Clinic, with much benefit to the scholars concerned. Unfortunately there is difficulty in prevailing upon parents to permit their children to wear spectacles, where prescribed. This is due to four main causes—(a) ignorance on the part of parents, (b) refusal of children to wear spectacles and lack of proper control of them by their parents, (c) the idea that it detracts from personal appearance, (d) the impression, rightly or wrongly, that the wearing of spectacles prevents employment being obtained. During the year the parents of eighty-four scholars were threatened by the Education Committee with prosecution for failure to provide spectacles for their children owing to neglect or refusal. This is an increase upon the figure for the previous year, which was sixty. Where the circumstances are such that very occasionally parents cannot purchase spectacles for financial reasons the Committee at once provides the money upon request by the parents, subject to their statements being proved correct, hence there is no excuse for any scholar suffering injury to sight through poverty.

Head teachers were requested by the Committee some years ago to report all cases to the School Medical Officer at once where scholars are seen in school not to be wearing their spectacles. A list of those who should wear them is periodically sent to Head Teachers by the S.M.O. This request is observed by some of the teachers with good results.

Report of the Ophthalmic Surgeon.

54, Bradford Road, Dewsbury,
30th Dec., 1924.

To the School Medical Officer, Batley.

Dear Sir,

During the year 1924 I examined the eyes of 183 school children and prescribed spectacles in 178 cases:—

Hypermetropia 42, Myopia 29, Simple Myopic Astigmatism 2, Compound Myopic Astigmatism 12, Simple Hypermetropic Astigmatism 22, Compound Hypermetropic Astigmatism 60, Mixed Astigmatism 11.

The glasses prescribed were found at subsequent examination to be quite satisfactory, and the children with convergent squint were, in most cases, much improved.

Two children had Congenital Nystagmus, and two cases of Coloboma of the Iris and Choroid were seen. Corneal scars were present in seven cases; there were two cases of Anesometropia, one child had Ectropion with disease of the lachrymal sac, and one case of Retinitis Proliferans.

I wish to thank the members of your staff for helping me so well during the year.

Yours faithfully,

RANDAL HERLEY.

(h) EAR DISEASE AND HEARING.—Scarlet Fever and Measles, as is usual, were responsible principally for the defects met with. The apathy and contempt displayed by many parents towards Measles is deplorable. This disease probably kills more persons in this country than all the other infectious diseases added together. The after effects upon those who recover are such as to permanently affect them throughout the rest of their lives in a large proportion of instances.

(i) DENTAL DEFECT.—The first whole-time dental surgeon (Mr. W. Adderley) was appointed jointly by the Batley and Spenborough Education Committees to commence duty on February 1st, 1924. Three days consisting of six sessions of three hours each were to be spent at Batley and two at Spenborough each week with alternate Saturday mornings at Batley and Spenborough. Dental work had previously been done in Batley by a part-time dental surgeon (Mr. Gray) in two sessions of three hours' each per week. Mr. Adderley resigned his position at Batley in October and his place was filled by the appointment for both areas on the same conditions of Mr. Hyslop, who commenced work on January 5th, 1925.

There is room for dental propaganda amongst parents and scholars, the percentage of acceptances of treatment having markedly declined as the year progressed. This I believe is largely due to the imposition by the Committee of a charge of 6d. per attendance, which was done at the request of the Board of Education. Instances have been reported where parents have refused to permit dental treatment who would have been willing had it been provided free as in the past.

Dental Treatment at Clinic.

Number of hours taken over treatment	450
Appointments made	1670
Appointments broken	171
New patients attended	869
Former patients attended	612
Patients from former years attended	277
No. of amalg. fillings—temporary	25
permanent	1028
No. of compound fillings—temporary	2
permanent	93
No. of cement fillings—temporary	38
permanent	67
No. of root fillings—temporary	Nil.
permanent	2
No. of teeth actually filled	1155
No of extractions—temporary	1358
permanent	20
No. of local anæsthetics	1763
No. of Ag NO$_3$ Dressings—temporary	22
permanent	74
No. of Devitalising Dressings—temporary	Nil.
permanent	2
No. of other dressings—temporary	24
permanent	256
No. of Scalings—temporary	1
Permanent	4
No. of Peroxide dressings—temporary	Nil.
permanent	11

DENTAL INSPECTION AT SCHOOLS, 1924.

SCHOOL	CHILDREN EXAMINED								Referred for Treatment	Per cent Referred for Treatment	Actually Treated	Per cent Actually Treated on Total Referred
	Age Groups											
	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	Total				
Park Road ...	—	66	89	117	1	—	—	273	219	80.2	128	58.4
Purlwell ...	11	81	102	108	69	61	—	432	342	79.2	192	56.1
Field Lane ...	—	38	33	12	—	—	—	83	59	71.1	16	27.1
Brownhill ...	—	22	39	37	—	—	—	98	80	81.6	45	56.2
Carlinghow ...	15	82	81	97	64	55	—	394	294	74.6	56	19.04
Warwick Road ...	—	68	102	118	—	—	—	288	227	78.8	110	48.4
Mill Lane ...	—	52	49	64	—	—	—	165	128	77.6	42	32.7
Hanging Heaton	—	27	23	29	—	—	—	79	56	70.8	39	69.6
Parish Church ...	11	77	64	102	59	26	—	339	218	64.3	98	44.9
Gregory Street ...	—	40	31	35	—	—	—	106	77	72.6	28	36.4
St. Mary's ...	4	85	103	93	41	40	1	367	268	73.02	136	50.7
Staincliffe ...	—	21	38	32	—	—	—	91	76	83.5	36	47.3
Healey	—	17	38	42	—	—	—	97	93	95.8	66	70.9
Totals ...	41	676	792	886	234	182	1	2812	2137	76.0	992	46.4

I have already discussed with Mr. Hyslop some preliminary lines upon which dental propaganda may be undertaken, and it is possible something definite may be done in the future after a scheme is prepared and adopted by the Committee.

The following is a letter received from the parent of a scholar who had been invited to attend the Dental Clinic for treatment. It explains itself and shews the need for propaganda.

> Sir,—I am writing to let you know that i don't believe in Dental Treatment and i am not willing for my child to go to the Dental Office as i can see to it myself. we never had to go here and there when i went to school.

(j) CRIPPLING DEFECTS.—Particulars are given in the appended tables. Where such is necessary every effort is made to persuade the parents of crippled children to obtain the necessary surgical advice or treatment, and in several instances during the year it has been possible to obtain this at the Orthopædic department of the Leeds Infirmary. In necessitous cases it is possible for funds to be obtained, hence the question of poverty does not arise.

ACCOMMODATION IN THE HOMES OF BATLEY SCHOOL CHILDREN EXAMINED DURING 1924.

This table is not strictly accurate, as experience proves that parents do not always give truthful replies to queries respecting housing conditions:—

No. of rooms in house	No. of persons per Tenement.												
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12 and upwards	Total.
1						1							1
2		9	60	115	83	76	68	20	19	6	2	2	460
3		2	55	111	126	94	66	31	20	8	1		514
4		1	22	44	60	41	37	22	10	4	4	2	247
5 and upwards.		1	16	20	37	32	28	30	17	9	6	5	201

Infectious Diseases.

Head Teachers reported 270 and School Attendance Officers 169 cases of infectious or contagious disease during the year. Generally speaking school closure in an industrial area like Batley is quite undesirable and defeats the ends which are aimed at. No school was recommended for closure during 1924.

The rules for exclusion from and readmission to school of scholars suffering from infectious or contagious diseases or having been in contact therewith have been previously described (pages 69, 70, and 71 of the Report of the S.M.O. for 1920). The total number of exclusions during the year was 822, against 1,206 the previous year.

During the period between compilation of this report and proofs being received from the printers, a revised memorandum on Closure of and Exclusion from School was issued jointly by the Ministry of Health and Board of Education. The procedure followed by the School Medical Officer in Batley during a number of years has been substantially on the lines now laid down, therefore little alteration in method will be necessary. For the future the period of exclusion of scholars from school on account of infectious conditions will be as follows, and is published here in order that Head Teachers and others concerned may make reference thereto when necessary :—

Disease.	Incubation Period.	Interval between onset of illness and appearance of rash.	Period of Exclusion.	
			Patients.	Contacts.
Scarlet Fever.	1 to 8 days.	1 to 2 days.	Two weeks after return from hospital, or, in the case of patients treated at home, two weeks after release from isolation.	One week after removal of patient to hospital, or in the case of patients at home, one week after release from isolation.
Diphtheria	2 to 10 days.	—	Two to three weeks after end of attack; or until pronounced free from infection by a medical practitioner. At least two negative swabs taken at intervals of not less than one week must have been obtained.	Two weeks after removal of patient to hospital, or, in the case of patients treated at home, ten days after release from isolation. Negative swabs must be obtained.
Measles	7 to 14 days.	4 days.	Three weeks from date of appearance of rash.	Infants, and other children who have not had the disease, three weeks from date of onset of last case in house.
German Measles	5 to 21 days.	0 to 2 days.	One week from date of appearance of rash.	Infants and other children who have not had the disease three weeks from date of last exposure to patient with rash.
Whooping Cough	6 to 18 days.	—	Six weeks from commencement of cough.	Infants only, for six weeks from date of onset of last case, or three weeks from date of last exposure to infection.
Mumps	12 to 23 days.	—	Until one week after subsidence of swelling.	No exclusion.
Chicken Pox	11 to 12 days.	0 to 2 days.	Three weeks, or until all scabs have disappeared.	Infants, and other children who have not had the disease, three weeks from date of last exposure to infection.
Small Pox	10 to 14 but usually 12 days.	3 days.	Six weeks, or until the patient is certified free from infection by a medical practitioner.	Sixteen days, unless recently vaccinated when exclusion is unnecessary.

The following shows the average weekly number of children, either patients or contacts, exculded from school during 1924 on account of infectious or contagious conditions:—

Scarlet Fever	5.32	Mumps	2.75
Diphtheria	1.0	Ringworm	8.16
Enteric Fever	0.16	Impetigo	0.38
Measles	5.89	Contagious Ophthalmia ...	Nil.
Whooping Cough	4.26	Scabies	Nil.
Chickenpox	7.22	Verminous Conditions ...	8.69

Following Up.

The School Nurses visit all homes of scholars who are found to be suffering from defects at the routine or special examinations, the object being to obtain amelioration or cure of the condition. They made 1,763 visits to homes and 243 to schools for this purpose during 1924, apart from other visits on account of verminous or allied conditions.

Medical Treatment.

All scholars found suffering from defects which need treatment are referred in the first instance to their own doctor. If for various reasons treatment is not obtained they are then recommended to attend the School Clinic or other suitable institution. The methods employed or available are described on Pages 13 and 14 of the Report of the S.M.O. for 1921 and brought up to date in the three succeeding Reports.

Goitre.

The prevalence of enlargement of the Thyroid Gland (sometimes referred to as Derbyshire neck) in greater or lesser degree has been noted amongst Batley scholars since the commencement of medical inspection in 1908. The cause of the condition is obscure, it being for years throughout the world attributed to the domestic water supply and many other circumstances, but the opinion is now generally held that the origin of goitre is due to a deficiency of Iodine in the human body. This can be made good by the administration of minute quantities either (a) in medicine, (b) as iodised salt to use at table, and (c) in other ways. In some parts of the world iodine is now added to the public water supplies in the reservoirs. Many cures have been reported, but it is apparent that provided a person leads a healthy open-air life, and in particular partakes of a proper diet suitably varied, containing all the necessary elements of food, with no lack of vitamines, it is unlikely that the person will develop simple goitre or any other of the deficiency diseases, if in fact goitre is of this nature, which seems very probable. During 1924 a record was kept of all scholars aged 12 found at routine examinations in whom the Thyroid was sufficiently enlarged for the increase in the size of the neck to be noticed on casual inspection (without measurement or palpation). As a result 9 boys and 13 girls were seen to come into this category. The following is a classification of all the cases discovered:—

	BOYS.				GIRLS.		
	Small.	Medium.	Large.		Small.	Medium.	Large.
Scholars aged 5 or under...	—	—	—	...	—	—	—
Scholars aged 9	4	—	1	...	7	—	—
Scholars aged 12	8	—	1	...	5	6	2

The total number of scholars examined at the routine examinations aged 12 were 479, of whom 228 were boys and 251 girls. The percentage figure for boys of this age found with enlargement of the Thyroid Gland is 3.9 and girls 5.1.

The percentage figures for the other age groups are:—

Infants, Nil, Boys (9 group), 2.1 per cent.; Girls (9 group), 2.5 per cent.

The parents of scholars affected with goitre are advised to give them an appropriate dose each day of Syrup of the Iodide of Iron. The following is the interesting case of a Batley school girl who has been severely affected with goitre and is still under treatment unable to follow her ordinary occupation. It is recorded here because her family history from the medical aspect is very interesting and the case may be useful to refer to in future years. The scholar is a girl aged 13, who is of very good physique. I saw her first on October 7th. The goitre was the size of a small orange, each lobe of the thyroid gland being equally enlarged. She had extreme tachycardia and had difficulty in getting about. There was no exophthalmos, nor had there ever been any symptoms of this. In January, 1924, she went to stay with friends on a farm in Derbyshire. There were no symptoms of goitre. In July her mother on visiting her noticed some enlargement of the neck. In September she brought her daughter back to Batley. I need not go further into the particulars as to what was done and treatment adopted, but at the time of writing she is much better, but still unable to follow her school life. The thyroid is smaller, though still enlarged. . The family history is as follows:—

(a) The girl's great-great-grandmother had goitre.

(b) The girl's great-grandmother (eldest daughter of above) had goitre "almost all her life," and died at the age of 86. She was the mother of fifteen children (8 girls and 7 boys), of whom only one, her eldest daughter, developed goitre.

(c) The girl's grandmother had goitre "as long as can be remembered," and is living to-day, aged 76. She is the mother of thirteen children (7 girls and 6 boys), of whom two, her eldest and second daughters, developed goitre.

(d) The girl's mother has goitre. She is the mother of four children (3 girls and 1 boy, of whom her eldest daughter, the girl herself, has goitre.

The girl's aunt went to America thirteen years ago without any sign of goitre having been noticed, but returned to England recently with the history of "having had a piece of her thyroid removed by operation because it had got so large." She appears now quite well, with no enlargement of the neck.

None of the above ever presented symptoms of exophthalmos, nor, so far as can be ascertained, cardiac involvement. There is no history of goitre in any descendants of the male side of the family, the condition being transmitted through females as in haemophylia.

Open Air Education.

(a) PLAYGROUND CLASSES.—Where facilities are available classes are taken in the open air, and if possible in an adjoining field, as at Brownhill School.

(b) SCHOOL JOURNEYS.—Mr. Elliott informs me that several senior schools arranged day or half day journeys to York, Scarborough, Ilkley, Bolton Abbey, Ripon and Fountains Abbey.

(c) SCHOOL CAMPS.—None were organised during 1924.

(d) OPEN-AIR CLASS ROOMS are as yet non-existent, but an encouraging sign is a statement made to me that "there is an increasing desire on the part of teachers to have rooms in all schools that may be thrown open as much as possible in suitable weather." If class-rooms are properly served by hoppers so as to admit of cross ventilation they can be supplied with ample fresh all in all weathers. If in addition there is no means for mechanically removing the glass which should form most of one side of a class-room, as is the case in modern schools, the idea expressed is realised.

(e) DAY OPEN-AIR SCHOOLS.—An Open Air School was established in the Wilton Park on May 1st, 1924. It had been advocated by the School Medical Officer for about thirteen years. The permission of the Board of Education was refused in 1922 but obtained in 1923. Miss M. R. Ambler was appointed Teacher-in-charge, and accommodation was provided for 23 mixed scholars varying in age from ten to thirteen as a rule. Scholars in the ordinary elementary schools suffering from malnutrition, anæmia, rickets and allied conditions are the source from which cases are selected. By arrangement with the Parks Committee the band stand is used as a class-room, but permission from the Board of Education has recently been obtained to erect a wooden structure in the playing fields of the Park to accommodate sixty scholars, with an additional teacher. The children come to the school and return by tramcar. The Park Mansion is used for meals. Cloak-room accommodation is provided there, including separate pegs for clothing, hair and tooth-brushes, towels, etc. The following is the time-table adopted:—

Lessons	9-30 a.m. to 10-45 a.m.
Break for warm milk	10-45 a.m. to 11- 0 a.m.
Lessons	11- 0 a.m. to 12-45 p.m.
Dinner at School	12-45 p.m. to 1-30 p.m.
Period for Rest	1-30 p.m. to 2-15 p.m.
Lessons	2-15 p.m. to 4- 0 p.m.

A cup of warm milk on dismissal.

The children express their pleasure at being in attendance at the school, and, having got used to the open-air life, say they do not desire to go back to the ordinary type of closed school again.

Much depends upon the kind of teacher. In Miss Ambler I believe we have the right one. She is an open-air enthusiast, has taken great interest in the scheme from its commencement, and above all heartily co-operate with the School Medical Officer and does her utmost to carry out his suggestions precisely.

The diet was carefully thought out, so that each scholar should be fed on scientific lines as to quantity and composition of food, together with due regard to an adequate supply of vitamines. Dinner is followed by half a raw orange or apple, together with a prescribed dose of cod liver oil for each scholar.

MONDAY.—Hot roast beef, cabbage, roast potatoes, rice pudding. In winter apple pudding.

TUESDAY.—Cold beef, mashed potatoes, salad made of finely sliced raw cabbage sprinkled with soft sugar and salad dressing. Rice pudding. In winter stewed steak and kidney with suet dumpling, carrots and turnips. When cabbages are unavailable in the spring, boiled peas, haricot beans or turnips.

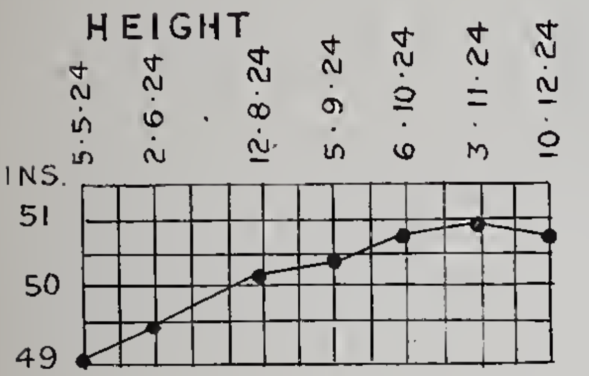
WEDNESDAY.—Hot roast mutton, mashed turnips or carrots, baked potatoes. Sago pudding. In winter boiled cabbage and boiled currant or raisin pudding.

THURSDAY.—Neck of mutton hot pot made with alternate layers of fresh meat, onions, potatoes. (This must not be confused with Irish stew). OR stewed rabbit with onions, carrots, turnips and boiled potatoes (in skins). Tapioca and stewed fruit. In winter baked or boiled jam roll with sauce, or suet pudding with treacle.

FRIDAY.—Boiled fish, parsley sauce, potatoes. Custard and prunes. In winter boiled peas to be added to this dinner

Each child must have 2½ to 3 ozs. of fish or meat, 2½ to 3 ozs. green vegetables, 3½ to 4 ozs. potatoes and ½ slice brown bread. These weights to be cooked food. Dinner to be followed by half

CHARTS SHEWING PROGRESS OF SCHOLARS AT OPEN AIR SCHOOL DURING 1924.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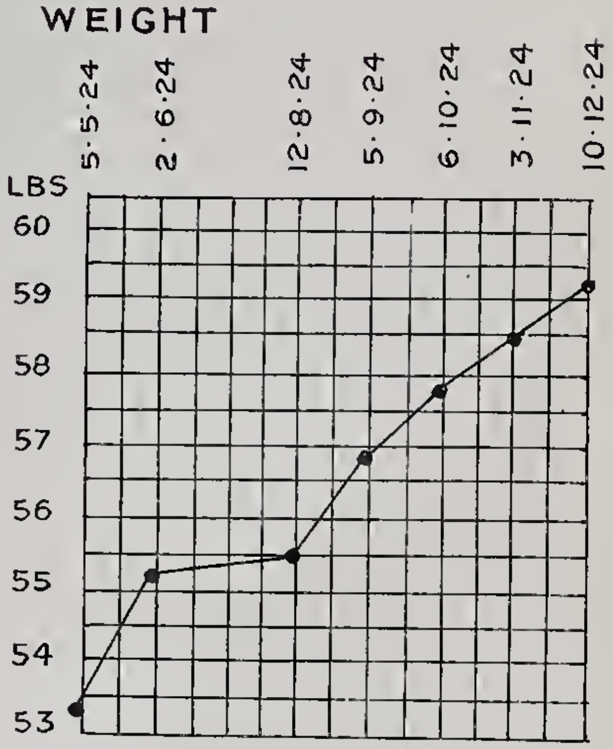
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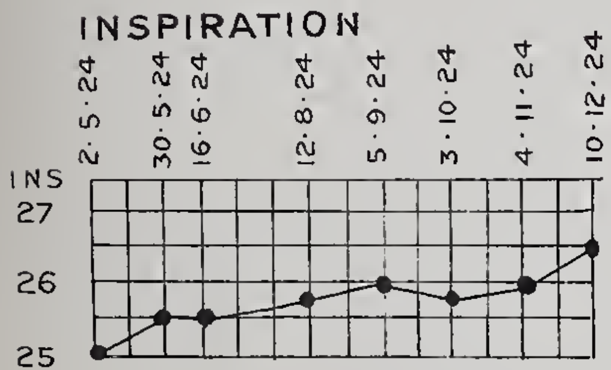
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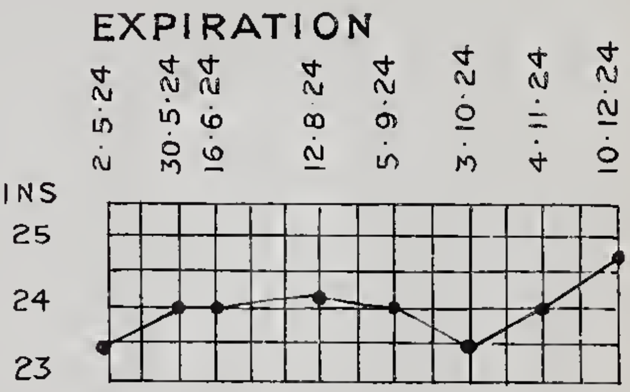
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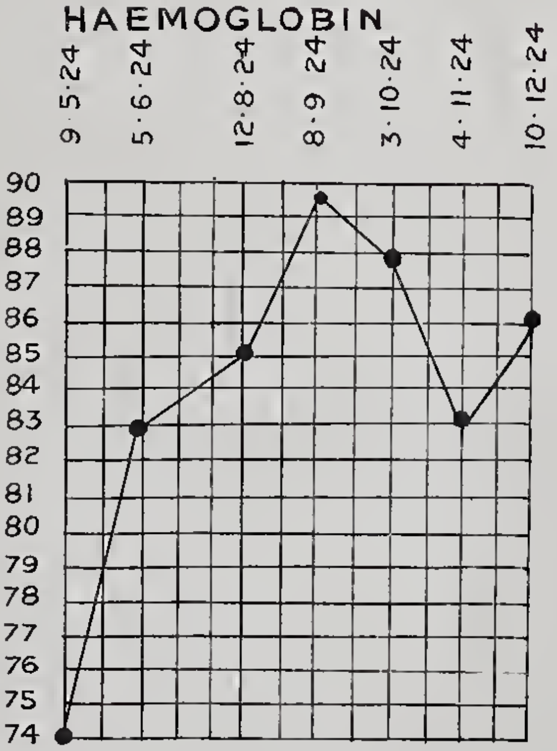
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an orange or half a raw apple, together with the prescribed dose of cod liver oil. Lemonade made from fresh lemons is served as a beverage at dinner.

Periodical visits are made by the School Medical Officer. Scholars are weighed and chests measured fortnightly. Heights are taken and lung capacity measured every three months. Blood is examined monthly.

It has been noticed the scholars appear to lose ground during the holidays when the school has been closed and they have to live under conditions at home which are inefrior to those when they are attending the Open-Air School. The period is too short and the number of scholars too small to shew any figures, but there is no doubt the above is correct.

The smoke nuisance is very pronounced, and has been the source of much comment. Two chimneys from mills some distance away are the greatest offenders. The prevailing wind is such that daily large areas of sky over the school are hidden by the black veil caused by the smoke from these two chimneys. All this is preventable, with financial gain to the millowners.

(f) RESIDENTIAL OPEN AIR SCHOOLS. The Committee does not possess any.

Physical Training.

There is a marked improvement in the physical condition of the scholars during recent years, when open-air games have become a larger factor in school life. The children look healthier and are healthier. Whilst this in some respects is due to the better wages earned by their parents, and therefore better feeding, I am convinced open-air games and swimming have a considerable share in the improvement which is illustrated if reference is made to the height and weight charts, and a comparison made between to-day and pre-war years.

Detailed arrangements for physical training are given in the Annual Report of the S.M.O. for the year 1920. Instruction in swimming was given at the Public Baths to 600 boys and 445 girls from the elementary schools. Certificates were awarded to 201 boys and 110 girls for swimming from 1 to 72 lengths.

Provision of Meals.

Mr. Elliott informs me that only in one or two instances (cases provisionally dealt with at School) have meals been provided during 1924. The figures for previous years were:—1923 None, 1922 None, 1921 3,853.

School Baths.

There are none. It would be of much benefit if simple shower baths were erected in connection with each school. In addition to their great hygienic advantage the educative side would be emphasised. It is hoped such an arrangement will be installed at the Open-Air School when it is extended to accommodate 60 children. Scholars at present visit the swimming baths but only for instruction in the art, not for cleansing purposes.

Co-operation of Parents, Teachers and School Attendance Officers.

During 1924 the percentage of parents attending the routine examinations was 62. The majority of the Head Teachers are present during some part of the inspections, and render no small assistance in furnishing information as in previous years. The School Attendance Officers are in close touch with the Public Health Department, and their services are of considerable value.

School Clinic.

The figures for 1924 are as follow:—

	Attendances.		Individual Scholars.
Minor Ailments	1405	Minor Ailments and other	437
Dental	1489	Dental	992
Ophthalmic	325	Ophthalmic	183
Total	3219	Total	1612

Co-operation of Voluntary Bodies.

The helpful work of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children through their local officer, Inspector Lawler, has already been mentioned. The " Boots for the Bairns' Fund " inaugurated by Alderman T. Western, J.P., when Mayor of Batley continued its work. The fund is administered by a Committee.

Distribution since 1922 has been carried out in co-operation with Mrs. A. W. Western, the Director of Education, the Teachers, and School Attendance Officers. Articles have been given as follows :—

Year.	Pairs of Boots.	Garments.
1921	634	1608
1922	525	708
1923	80	45
1924	141	None.

In 1921 and 1922 distribution was performed through the Public Health Department and the Health Visitors, whose knowledge of the children and their home circumstances is unique.

Blind, Deaf, Defective and Epileptic Children.

The arrangements are described in the 1921 Report of the School Medical Officer. Particulars are given in the appended tables.

Nursery Schools.

There are none.

Secondary Schools.

The Medical inspection is performed by Assistant School Medical Officers of the West Riding County Council.

Continuation Schools.

The County Council is responsible for such.

Employment of Children and Young Persons.

(1) Scholars, where employed out of school hours, are chiefly engaged in the distribution of papers and periodicals for newsagents, and in other ways as messengers, errand boys, etc. A number have been examined and certified by the School Medical Officer. Employers do not always have regard to the requirements, it being not uncommon for the S.M.O. to be called upon to certify as to a boy's fitness to perform certain duties when on enquiry it appears he has actually been doing the work and receiving payment from an employer for some considerable period. This was particularly illustrated in one case, where a boy had some time before been discharged from a sanatorium, and when

his mother brought him for examination for the necessary certificate it transpired he had been employed for some weeks in the early morning last winter delivering papers. He was suffering from phthisis, and I refused a certificate, which did not add to my popularity. An example should be made in some cases as a warning to others.

(2) There is no co-ordination between the work of the School Medical Service and that of the certifying Factory Surgeon for the Borough, this officer being a general practitioner who resides in another town.

Statistical Tables.

The statistical tables required by the Board of Education in respect of children in Public Elementary Schools are appended herewith.

I desire to record my appreciation of the excellent work performed by the School Nurses, and the assistance, particularly statistical, rendered by Mrs. Louks, Chief Clerk, also the hearty co-operation of Mr. Elliott, Director of Education.

G. H. PEARCE, M.D., D.P.H.,
School Medical Officer.

January 31st, 1925.

TABLE 1.—RETURN OF MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

A.—Routine Medical Inspections.

Number of Code Group Inspections—

Entrants	395
Intermediates	509
Leavers	479
Total	1383
Number of other Routine Inspections	251

B.—Other Inspections.

Number of Special Inspections	290
Number of Re-inspections	449
Total	739

TABLE II.

A.—Return of Defects found by Medical Inspection in the Year ended 31st December, 1924.

	DEFECT OR DISEASE.	Routine Inspections		Special Inspections	
		No. of Defects		No. of Defects.	
		Requiring Treatment.	Requiring to be kept under observation, but not requiring treatment	Requiring Treatment.	Requiring to be kept under observation, but not requiring treatment
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
	Malnutrition	136	—	3	—
	Uncleanliness (See Table IV, Group V.)	148	25	77	—
Skin.	Ringworm—				
	Scalp	—	—	—	—
	Body	2	—	—	—
	Scabies	—	—	—	—
	Impetigo	5	11	—	—
	Other Diseases (Non-Tubercular)	—	5	—	—
Eye.	Blepharitis	13	8	1	—
	Conjunctivitis	—	—	—	—
	Keratitis	—	—	—	—
	Corneal Opacities	—	2	—	—
	Defective Vision (excluding Squint)	68	138	39	5
	Squint	22	22	12	—
	Other Conditions	1	2	—	—
Ear	Defective Hearing	2	8	2	—
	Otitis Media	4	4	2	—
	Other Ear Diseases	2	1	—	—
Nose and Throat.	Enlarged Tonsils (only)	52	92	25	—
	Adenoids (only)	6	10	1	—
	Enlarged Tonsils and Adenoids	—	—	2	—
	Other Conditions	—	1	—	—
	Enlarged Cervical Glands (Non-Tubercular)	—	82	—	—
	Defective Speech	—	6	—	—
	Teeth—Dental Diseases (See Table IV, Group IV)	204	611	—	—

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Heart and Circulation.	Heart Disease—				
	Organic	—	2	—	—
	Functional	—	5	—	—
	Anæmia	24	—	1	—
Lungs	Bronchitis	1	52	—	—
	Other Non-Tubercular Diseases	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis.	Pulmonary—				
	Definite	—	—	1	—
	Suspected	8	1	—	—
	Non-Pulmonary—				
	Glands	—	1	—	—
	Spine	—	—	—	—
	Hip	—	—	—	—
	Other Bones and Joints	—	—	—	—
	Skin	—	—	—	—
	Other Forms	—	—	—	—
Nervous System.	Epilepsy	1	—	—	—
	Chorea	1	—	—	—
	Other Conditions	—	2	—	—
Deformities.	Rickets	2	147	—	—
	Spinal Curvature	—	—	—	—
	Other Forms	—	24	1	—
	Other Defects and Diseases	—	214	—	—

B.—Number of individual children found at Routine Medical Inspection to Require Treatment (excluding uncleanliness and dental diseases).

Group. (1)	Number of Children.		Percentage of children found to require treatment. (4)
	Inspected. (2)	Found to require treatment. (3)	
Code Groups :			
Entrants	395	133	33.6
Intermediates	509	176	34.5
Leavers	479	149	31.1
Total (code groups) ..	1383	458	33.1
Other routine inspections ..	251	4	1.6

TABLE III.

Return of all Exceptional Children in the Area.

			Boys	Girls	Total
Blind (including partially blind).	(*i*) Suitable for training in a School or Class for the totally blind.	Attending Certified Schools or Classes for the Blind	1	—	1
		Attending Public Elementary Schools			
		At other Institutions			
		At no School or Institution	1	—	1
	(*ii*) Suitable for training in a School or Class for the partially blind.	Attending Certified Schools or Classes for the Blind	2	1	3
		Attending Public Elementary Schools	2	3	5
		At other Institutions			
		At no School or Institution			
Deaf (including Deaf and Dumb and partially deaf)	(*i*) Suitable for training in a School or Class for the totally deaf or deaf and dumb.	Attending Certified Schools or Classes for the Deaf	1	—	1
		Attending Public Elementary Schools			
		At other Institutions			
		At no School or Institution			
	(*ii*) Suitable for training in a School or Class for the partially deaf.	Attending Certified Schools or Classes for the Deaf	—	1	1
		Attending Public Elementary Schools	—	1	1
		At other Institutions			
		At no School or Institution			
Mentally Defective.	Feeble-Minded (cases not notifiable to the Local Control Authority.	Attending Certified Schools for Mentally Defective Children.			
		Attending Public Elementary Schools	3	1	4
		Attending other Institutions			
		At no School or Institution			
	Notified to the Local Control Authority during the year	Feeble-Minded			
		Imbeciles			
		Idiots			
Epileptics.	Suffering from severe epilepsy	Attending Certified Schools (Special) for Epileptics	—	1	1
		In Institutions other than Certified Special Schools...			
		Attending Public Elementary Schools			
		At no School or Institution	—	1	1
	Suffering from epilepsy which is not severe	Attending Public Elementary Schools	1	1	2
		At no School or Institution			

			Boys	Girls	Total
Physically Defective.	Infectious Pulmonary and Glandular Tuberculosis.	At Sanatoria or Sanatorium Schools approved by the Ministry of Health or the Board	5	8	13
		At other Institutions			
		At no School or Institution	29	33	62
	Non-Infectious but Active Pulmonary and Glandular Tuberculosis.	At Sanatoria or Sanatorium Schools approved by the Ministry of Health or the Board			
		At Certified Residential Open-Air Schools			
		At Certified Day Open-Air Schools ..			
		At Public Elementary Schools	14	23	37
		At other Institutions			
		At no School or Institution			
	Delicate children (*e.g.*, pre- or latent tuberculosis, malnutrition, debility, anæmia, etc.)	At Certified Residential Open-Air Schools	14	10	24
		At Certified Day Open-Air Schools ...			
		At Public Elementary Schools	75	88	163
		At other Institutions			
		At no School or Institution			
	Active non-pulmonary tuberculosis... ...	At Sanitoria or Hospital Schools approved by the Ministry of Health or the Board	1	—	1
		At Public Elementary Schools	1	3	4
		At other Institutions			
		At no School or Institution	5	2	7
	Crippled Children (other than those with active tuberculosis), *e.g.*, children suffering from paralysis, etc., and including those with severe heart disease.	At Certified Hospital Schools	—	—	—
		At Certified Residential Cripple Schools			
		At Certified Day Cripple Schools ...			
		At Public Elementary Schools ...	11	19	30
		At other Institutions			
		At no School or Institution	2	1	3

TABLE IV.

Return of Defects treated during the Year ended 31st December, 1924.

TREATMENT TABLE.

Group 1.—Minor Ailments.

(Excluding Uncleanliness, for which see Group V.)

Disease or Defect	Number of Defects treated or under treatment during the year.		
	Under the Authority's Scheme	Otherwise.	Total.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
SKIN			
Ringworm—Scalp	8	Nil	8
Ringworm—Body	17	Nil	17
Scabies	Nil	Nil	Nil
Impetigo	22	2	24
Other Skin Diseases	Nil	Nil	Nil
MINOR EYE DEFECTS ... (External and other, but excluding cases falling in Group II.)	21	3	24
MINOR EAR DEFECTS ...	6	9	15
MISCELLANEOUS ... (*e.g.* minor injuries, bruises, sores, chilblains, etc.)	1	1	2
TOTAL ..	75	15	90

TABLE IV.—(Continued).

Group 2.—Defective Vision and Squint.

(Excluding Minor Eye Defects treated as Minor Ailments, Group 1.

Disease or Defect. (1)	Number of Defects dealt with.			
	Under the Authority's Scheme. (2)	Submitted to refraction by private practitioner or at hospital apart from the Authority's Scheme. (3)	Otherwise. (4)	Total. (5)
Errors of Refraction (including Squint).	178	Nil	Nil	178
Other Defect or Disease of the Eyes (excluding those recorded in Group 1.)	5	Nil	Nil	5
TOTAL ...	183	Nil	Nil	183

Total number of children for whom spectacles were prescribed.

(*a*) Under the Authority's Scheme ... 178

(*b*) Otherwise ... ... Nil.

Total number of children who obtained or received spectacles.

(*a*) Under the Authority's Scheme ... 170.

(*b*) Otherwise ... ... Nil.

Group 3.—Treatment of Defects of Nose and Throat.

NUMBER OF DEFECTS

Received Operative Treatment.			Received Other Forms of Treatment. (4)	Total Number Treated. (5)
Under the Authority's Scheme, in Clinic or Hospital. (1)	By Private Practitioner or Hospital, apart from the Authority's Scheme. (2)	Total. (3)		
30	3	33	Nil	33

TABLE IV.—(Continued).

Group A.—Dental Defects.

(1) Number of children who were:—

(a) Inspected by the Dentist:—

	Aged :			
Routine Age Groups ...	5	41	Total	2812
	6	676		
	7	792		
	8	886		
	9	234		
	10	182		
	11	1		
	12			
	13			
	14			
Specials ...				20
			Grand Total	2832

(b) Found to require treatment 2137

(c) Actually treated 992

(d) Re-treated during the year as the result of periodical examination 256

(2) Half-days devoted to—

Inspection	43	
Treatment	150	—Total 193

(3) Attendances made by children for treatment 1489

(4) Fillings—

Permanent teeth	1182	
Temporary teeth	58	—Total 1240

(5) Extractions—

Permanent teeth	20	
Temporary teeth	1369	—Total 1389

(6) Administrations of general anæsthetics for extractions ... None

(7) Other operations—

Permanent teeth	357	
Temporary teeth	42	—Total 399

TABLE IV.—(Continued).

GROUP 5.—Uncleanliness and Verminous Conditions.

(1) Average number of visits per school made during the year by the School Nurse	11.3
(2) Total number of examinations of children in the Schools by School Nurses	14,108
(3) Number of individual children found unclean	734
(4) Number of children cleansed under arrangements made by the Local Education Authority	None.
(5) Number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken—...	
(a) Under the Education Act, 1921	None.
(b) Under School Attendance Bye-laws	2

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